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Advertisements for this column are accepted at the rate of 2d. per word prepaid (if Box Number used 6d. extra), and must reach this office not later than Monday morning for the coming week's issue.

All communications should be addressed to the Advertisement Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," Southampton Street, Strand, London.

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TO LET, UNFURNISHED,

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LOVELY OLD GROUNDS, TENNIS, ORCHARD, PADDOCK; in all about
ELEVEN ACRES.

HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James's Square, S.W. 1.

Drawing room 24ft. by 12ft., dining room, 21ft. by 20ft., smoking room, 15ft. by 15ft., ten bed and dressing rooms, two bath-rooms.

Electric light.

GARAGE.
STABLING, with two rooms over.

COTTAGE.

Exceedingly well built in old Surrey farmhouse style, is approached by long carriage drive, and comprises: Lounge hall, dining and drawing rooms, cloak-room, offices, servants' sitting room, six or eight bedrooms, two bathrooms.

All services.
Fitted lavatory basins.

GARAGE.

Stabling for four horses.

ATTRACTIVE GROUNDS WITH TENNIS COURT, FLAGGED AND WALLED GARDEN, MEADOWLAND; in all about

EIGHT-AND-A-HALF ACRES.

For full particulars apply HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James's Square, S.W. 1.

Offices: 20, ST. JAMES'S SQUARE, S.W.1

Telephone No.:
Regent 4304.**OSBORN & MERCER**
"ALBEMARLE HOUSE," 28b, ALBEMARLE STREET, PICCADILLY, W.1Telegraphic Address:
"Overbid-Piccy, London."**REDLYNCH PARK, BRUTON, SOMERSET**

JUST OVER TWO HOURS FROM LONDON. HUNTING WITH THE BLACKMORE VALE.

A FINELY EQUIPPED GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

Standing 400ft. up on a Southern slope, and containing: Hall, three reception rooms, eighteen bed and dressing rooms, etc.; Company's water and electric light.

WELL-TIMBERED PARK WITH TEN-ACRE LAKEOld-world walled gardens, extensive woodlands; **model home farm** and two **first-class dairy farms**, the whole constituting probably**THE CHOICEST ESTATE IN THE COUNTY**

practically surrounded by a high stone wall and extending to about

750 ACRES

Price and full particulars of the SOLE AGENTS, Messrs. OSBORN and MERCER.

**AN OPPORTUNITY
FOR THE DISCERNING BUYER**of acquiring, REGARDLESS OF VALUE, a **CHARMING OLD HOUSE**, thoroughly modernised with lavatory basins in every bedroom, electric light and central heating throughout, telephone, etc., and beautifully placed in fully matured grounds with old walled moat, prolific kitchen garden and pasture, etc., of about**26 ACRES****COTTAGE.**

Hall with cloakroom (b. and c.) and w.c., three reception rooms, fire (or seven) bedrooms, bathroom, heated linen cupboard, etc.

THE CHEAPEST PROPERTY IN NORFOLK

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (15,953.)

By order of Dr. D. H. Scott, F.R.S.

**EAST OAKLEY HOUSE
NEAR BASINGSTOKE**

About a mile from Oakley Station, and four-and-a-half miles from Basingstoke, whence

LONDON IS REACHED IN AN HOURELECTRIC LIGHT. TELEPHONE. CENTRAL HEATING
MATURED GROUNDS AND GARDENSTwo beautiful
old
Tudor Barns.Chauffeur's
Cottage.Sound pasture, etc.
in all about**21 ACRES**

For SALE by AUCTION (unless previously Sold Privately) by the Auctioneers, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, as above, Solicitors, Messrs. LONGBOURNE, STEVENS & POWELL, 7, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.2.

SURREY

Close to a station and a few miles south of Guildford.

WELL-BUILT MODERN HOUSE,

standing on light soil, facing south, commanding magnificent views. Hall, three reception rooms, nine bed and dressing rooms (several with lavatory basins (b. and c.)), three bathrooms, servants' hall, etc.

ALL MAIN SERVICES**GARAGE.****COTTAGE**Delightful gardens and grounds of nearly **FOUR ACRES**. Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (15,995.)DO NOT WAIT FOR BETTER TIMES BEFORE
PURCHASING A COUNTRY RESIDENCE**buy property now****WHEN TRADE REVIVES** it is reasonable to suppose that with a higher bank rate the price of GILT-EDGED STOCK WILL FALL. **PROPERTY PRICES ARE LOW** at the present time but will undoubtedly harden when general conditions improve.**moral**

CONVERT YOUR HIGH-PRICED GILT-EDGED STOCKS INTO LOW-PRICED FREEHOLD PROPERTY NOW AND YOU SHOULD GAIN BOTH WAYS.

HANTS AND SUSSEX BORDERSIn the pick of this favourite district; quiet and secluded, but not isolated. **EXCEPTIONAL ESTATE OF 85 ACRES**

With this

WONDERFUL TUDOR HOUSE

on which enormous sums have been lavished in making a perfect old-world home with every modern comfort. It possesses a wealth of old oak paneling and floors, large open fireplaces, carved engravings, etc., and the accommodation affords LOUNGE HALL, THREE RECEPTION ROOMS, TWELVE BEDROOMS AND SEVEN LUXURIOUS BATHROOMS.

Large garage, stabling with rooms, five cottages and an entrance lodge.

UNSURPASSED GROUNDS

with magnificent rock and water gardens with islands and rustic bridges, Dutch garden, hard and grass tennis courts, woodland and pasture.

FOR SALE AT A FRACTION OF COST

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (15,946.)

HERTFORDSHIRE

BEAUTIFUL UNspoiled DISTRICT ONLY AN HOUR FROM LONDON.

LOVELY OLD GEORGIAN HOUSE,with delightful period features in unimpeachable order and modernised to a degree. **Company's Water and Electric Light, Central Heating, Telephone, etc.**

Three good reception rooms, ten bed and dressing rooms, three bathrooms, nurseries and model domestic offices. Delightful old terraced gardens, rich pasture, woodland, etc.

**LARGE GARAGE. MODEL BUILDINGS
TWO FINE COTTAGES****£8,000 WITH 90 ACRES, OR £6,000 WITH 17 ACRES**

Recommended by Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (15,982.)

DORSET AND DEVON BORDERS

CLOSE TO THE SEA. NEAR GOLF. HUNTING. FISHING

ARTIST'S IDEAL RESIDENCE COMMANDING LOVELY PANORAMIC VIEWS

**ONLY £2,850**

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (15,157.)

Telephone No.:
Grosvenor 1553 (4 lines).

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

(ESTABLISHED 1778.)

25, MOUNT STREET, GROSVENOR SQUARE, W.1

And at
Hobart Place, Eaton Sq.,
West Halkin St., Belgrave Sq.,
45, Parliament St.,
Westminster, S.W.



AN UNIQUE OLD COTTAGE 500FT. UP ON CHILTERN. UNSPOILED COUNTRY.



RESTORED AT CONSIDERABLE EXPENSE.
Four bed, bath, hall, two reception rooms.
Main water. Electric light shortly. Garage.
THE GARDENS ARE A SPECIAL FEATURE,
having been the Owner's hobby for many years. Paddock.

FOUR ACRES. FREEHOLD

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.1.
(B 3010.)

ONE OF THE FINEST HUNTING BOXES IN CENTRE OF OLD BERKS HUNT



HANDSOME JACOBEAN RESIDENCE.
Nine bed and dressing, bath, three reception rooms.
ALL MODERN CONVENIENCES.
Garage. First-rate range of stabling.
OLD TIMBERED GROUNDS.
THREE ACRES. £3,500
(More land up to 40 acres can be purchased.)
GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.1.
Telephone: Grosvenor 1553. (4139.)

ON EPSOM DOWNS

Station twelve minutes, London 30 minutes.



DELIGHTFUL
OLD GEORGIAN RESIDENCE,
formerly a farmhouse, modernised throughout. Seven
bed (all with h. and c. water), two bath, three reception
rooms; main gas, electric light and water, central heating.
Stabling, garage. DELIGHTFUL GARDENS.

ONE ACRE

VERY MODERATE PRICE.

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Street, W.1. (C 1462.)

3. MOUNT STREET,
LONDON, W.1.

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Telephones:
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MAGNIFICENT SITUATION ON KENTISH HEIGHTS



600FT. ABOVE SEA LEVEL.
SHELTERED.
MARVELLOUS PANORAMA.

REPLETE AND BEAUTIFULLY EQUIPPED RESIDENCE

Twelve bedrooms, six bathrooms, three reception and billiard
room.

Electric light. Central heating. Company's water.
GARAGES AND SEVERAL COTTAGES.

EXQUISITE GARDENS
and delightful woodland walks.

VERY SPORTING PRIVATE GOLF COURSE

FARMERY WITH HOMESTEAD AND BUILDINGS
IN ALL ABOUT

134 ACRES

FREEHOLD FOR SALE.

MOST REASONABLE PRICE

Representing less than one-third of the original cost.

Full details and photograph of Sole Agents, RALPH PAY AND
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BRACKETT & SONS

London Office:
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27 & 29, HIGH ST., TUNBRIDGE WELLS, and 34, CRAVEN ST., CHARING CROSS, W.C.2

CROWBOROUGH, SUSSEX



£4,800. FREEHOLD.

On high ground, close to the golf links.

A ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE, built
in the old Sussex style with genuine oak
beams.

The accommodation comprises lounge hall,
two reception rooms, five bedrooms (four
with running water), bathroom and excellent
offices.

ESPECIALLY DESIGNED GARDEN

laid out at a cost of £1,000, including full-
sized tennis court and kitchen garden.

GARAGE.

MAIN SERVICES.

Further particulars of BRACKETT & SONS, as above. (Fo. 34,222.)

HADDISCOE HALL ESTATE, NORFOLK

FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY

By direction of W. L. Calkin, Esq.

THE VALUABLE AND ATTRACTIVE
RESIDENTIAL AND AGRICULTURAL FREE-
HOLD ESTATE, including

HADDISCOE HALL.

a beautifully situated Residence of white brick, in a well-
timbered park of 30 acres, with charming lake of about
one-and-a-quarter acres, with rhododendron walks, etc.
The House contains four good reception rooms, six bed-
rooms on first floor with hot and cold water, and two on
second floor, modern bathrooms, lavatories and drainage
system; electric light and central heating. Also the

HADDISCOE HALL FARM.

a very fine dairy and fruit-growing farm, of which
47 acres are now planted with top fruit and soft fruit;
commodious sets of premises, including modern cowhouse
for 50 cows. The total extent of the property is about

250 ACRES.

VACANT POSSESSION of the whole Property will
be given at Michaelmas next or earlier by arrangement.

Further particulars may be obtained of:

J. R. E. DRAPER,
LAND AGENT, WROXHAM, NORFOLK.

Telephone: Grosvenor 3131.

CURTIS & HENSON
LONDON

Telegrams: "Submit, London."

SHORT RUN OF SIXTEEN MILES ONLY TO SOUTH COAST
GLORIOUS SOUTHERLY PANORAMA TOWARDS LEWES AND SOUTH DOWNS

THE GARDENS AND GROUNDS are well wooded and economically maintained; gravelled terrace, tennis lawns, walled kitchen and fruit garden, orchard, wild garden and woodland walks, EXCEPTIONALLY FINE SQUASH RACQUET AND HARD TENNIS COURTS.

The estate provides excellent Sporting, and an additional area is rented, making a first-class shoot in a ring fence.

EXCELLENT GRASS FARM—MODEL BUILDINGS.

UNEQUALLED READY MARKET AT COAST FOR ALL PRODUCE.

IN ALL ABOUT 530 ACRES

Bailiff's house, five cottages, in unusually fine order, the result of a large expenditure in recent years. FOR SALE, FREEHOLD, AS A WHOLE OR WITH PARK OF 64 ACRES ONLY, if desired. Inspected and recommended.—Full illustrated particulars from CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

SECLUDED SITUATION CLOSE TO ASHDOWN FOREST.

FINE RESIDENTIAL AND SPORTING ESTATE.

MODERN BRICK-BUILT HOUSE IN FIRST-RATE ORDER.
LONG DRIVE WITH LODGE.

Vestibule and entrance hall, lounge hall, fine carved oak staircase and gallery, drawing room, dining room, morning room and library, nine best bedrooms and TWO BATHROOMS, seven secondary and servants' bedrooms, and THREE BATHROOMS, modern easily worked domestic offices.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. CENTRAL HEATING. ABUNDANT WATER.
MODERN BRICK AND TILE GARAGE AND STABLING, harness room and TWO COTTAGES.



KING'S CROSS—ONE HOUR

One mile from main line station. At the foot of the Chiltern Hills.

UNUSUALLY FINE MODERN RESIDENCE, erected a few years ago at an enormous expense, in the Tudor Style, of mellowed red brick. Fine position in well-timbered park; long drive approach. FIVE RECEPTION, TWENTY BEDROOMS, EIGHT BATHROOMS; electric light, central heating, telephone, abundant water, modern drainage; beautiful fittings; garage for three cars, stabling, two cottages, farmery; unique gardens and pleasure grounds, ornamental lakelet with clipped yew hedges, rose garden and pergola, four tennis courts, walled kitchen garden, orchard, glasshouses, beautiful timber, rich grass parkland and woods; in all nearly

200 ACRES REDUCED PRICE

Hunting, shooting and golf.—Owners Agents, CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

GUILDFORD—FIVE MILES

45 minutes' rail—steam and electric services. First-class golf. Adjacent to thousands of acres of beautiful commonlands.

ATTRACTIVE AND COMFORTABLE RESIDENCE, built of brick, and weather-tiled. Drive approach; recently redecorated. Every modern installation. Three reception, six bedrooms (space for others), two bathrooms; Company's electric light and power, Co.'s water and gas, central heating, telephone, modern drainage; garages, extensive outbuildings, gardener's bungalow with electric light; unusually beautiful grounds, well-timbered, ornamental lawns, yew hedges, orchard, kitchen garden, paddock; in all

ABOUT FOUR ACRES

PRICE IN STRICT ACCORDANCE WITH TO-DAY'S VALUES.

CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

ON THE HILLS ABOVE
HENLEY—OXON

HIGH AND HEALTHY POSITION 350FT. UP, WITH BEAUTIFUL VIEWS, ADJOINING GOLF COURSE.

GABLED BRICK HOUSE, tile-hung, the roof. Driveway, two entrances, three reception, ten to eight bedrooms, two bathrooms, model offices, servants' sitting room; double garage, liveried garden cottage. CO'S WATER, CESSPOOL DRAINAGE, CENTRAL HEATING, INDEPENDENT HOT WATER; CO'S ELECTRICITY NEARBY. PARTICULARLY ATTRACTIVE GROUNDS, flower and wild garden, herbaceous borders, fruit and vegetable garden, orchard, paddock, woodland;

ABOUT SEVEN ACRES FREEHOLD
FIRST-CLASS GOLF.

CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

FIFTEEN MILES FROM
THE CITY OF OXFORD

Hunting six days a week. Gravel soil, 400ft. up. Five miles from main line station, with unequalled service to London in one hour.

UNIQUE SPECIMEN OF A TUDOR MANOR HOUSE, of great historical interest. Huge sums have lately been spent without in any way despoiling its original features. Rich in oak paneling, open fireplaces, and many period characteristics. Four reception, fourteen bedrooms, four bathrooms; electric light, central heating everywhere, ample water supply, telephone; extensive stabling for hunters, men's rooms, garages; matured gardens and Old English pleasure—delightful feature—stone flagging, formal gardens with yews, unique blue flowered garden, tennis and croquet lawns, walled garden, paddock; in all

ABOUT TEN ACRES
THE PRICE ASKED IN NO WAY COMPARES WITH
THE RECENT EXPENDITURE.

If required, the home farm and over 100 acres adjoining can be purchased upon advantageous terms.

VERY HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.

CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

BEAUTIFUL AND INCOMPARABLE
FRENSHAM COMMONS

TWO MINUTES FROM GOLF COURSE, ONE MILE FROM OLD-WORLD VILLAGE.

UNIQUE STONE BUILT RESIDENCE, beautiful position, magnificent views, sand soil. Recently modernised and fitted with every convenience at considerable expenditure; excellent order throughout. Ready for immediate entry. THREE RECEPTION, SEVEN BEDROOMS, TWO BATHROOMS; company's electric light and power; water and gas, telephone, modern drainage, independent water supply; stabling and garage, bungalow; well-timbered and inexpensive pleasure grounds, tennis lawn, grass orchard, Italian lily pond, shrubberies, kitchen garden, woodland and paddock; in all

ABOUT SIX ACRES

Hunting and fishing. REASONABLE PRICE ASKED.
CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

IN DELIGHTFUL SCENERY BETWEEN
DORKING AND GUILDFORD

TWO MILES FROM FORMER, STANDING HIGH, WITH GOOD VIEWS, IN UNSPOILT COUNTRY.

REDBRICK HOUSE, with tile roof, in excellent order; hall, two reception, model offices, four to six bedrooms, day and night nurseries, two bathrooms; garage; CO'S GAS, CO'S ELECTRICITY, MAIN WATER, MAIN DRAINAGE. WELL-ESTABLISHED GARDENS, herbaceous borders, fruit and vegetable garden, small paddock, space for tennis court; in all

ABOUT TWO ACRES FREEHOLD

EXCELLENT GOLF. MODERATE PRICE.

CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

FINE VIEWS TO SOUTH DOWNS.

BETWEEN HORSHAM & PULBOROUGH

EASY REACH OF WEST SUSSEX GOLF COURSE.



Fine trees, kitchen garden, two cottages, remainder pasture and woodland; about

140 ACRES, FREEHOLD

EXTREMELY REASONABLE PRICE.

CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

GRAVEL SOIL.

BEAUTIFUL QUEEN ANNE HOUSE.

BERKS AND OXON BORDERS

Mellowed red brick
Jacobean timberwork,
restored and modernised,
large outlay.

Three period reception,
model offices, servants' hall, chauffeur's room, ten bed, three bath.

Electric light,
Central heating,
Abundant water,
Modern drainage,
Garage.

Fine old tithe barn.



Matured gardens in keeping, grass court, walled rose garden, pillared loggia, kitchen garden, the remainder park-like well-timbered meadows; in all about

27 ACRES, FREEHOLD

CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

Telephone: Regent 4206.
Telegrams: "Cornishmen, London."

Strongly recommended. £3,000, FREEHOLD.
HENLEY & OXFORD (between).—Particularly attractive RESIDENCE, in excellent order throughout. 3 reception, 2 bathrooms, 7-8 bedrooms. Co.'s electricity and water, central heating, telephone, constant hot water.

GOOD STABLING. GARAGES.

Charming grounds of about 2½ acres with tennis lawn and orchard, intersected by SMALL TROUT STREAM. More land can be rented. TRESIDDER & Co., 37, Albemarle St., W. 1. (16,161.)

S. WESTERN COUNTY (400ft. above sea level; south aspect).—For SALE, bargain, charming small RESIDENCE (easily enlarged). Hall, 2 reception, bathroom, 5 bedrooms. Co.'s water. Phone. STABLING FOR 3. GARAGE. Rock and water gardens, lawn, vegetable garden, grass and woodland; in all about 57 ACRES, partly BOUNDED BY STREAM AFFORDING 1 MILE TROUT AND SALMON FISHING (more available). TRESIDDER & Co., 37, Albemarle St., W. 1. (16,307.)

£3,500 WITH 7 ACRES. £5,500 WITH 119 ACRES.
DEVON-CORNWALL (borders; good sporting district; south aspect, overlooking moors).—Very attractive modern RESIDENCE, approached by carriage drive. Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, bathroom, 6 bedrooms. Electric light, ample water. Stabling. Garage. Cottage. Inexpensive grounds, walled garden, paddocks, etc. Adjoining farm of 112 acres can be had. TRESIDDER & Co., 37, Albemarle St., W. 1. (16,452.)

Inspected and strongly recommended.
SUSSEX (between Brighton and London, 28 miles).—For SALE or Letting. Furnished or Unfurnished, delightful labour-saving LOUNGE HALL, 2 reception, loggia, 2 bath, 5-6 bedrooms. Hand-basins in bedrooms. Co.'s water, gas and electric light. Central heating. Phone.

GARAGE. GROUNDS OF 2 ACRES.
TRESIDDER & Co., 37, Albemarle St., W. 1. (16,468.)

£130 PER ANNUM, OR WOULD BE SOLD. 1,500-2,500 acres of shooting (optional).

SUFFOLK GEORGIAN HOUSE; 4 reception rooms, 10 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, etc.; central heating, electric light, telephone; garage, useful outbuildings.

Charming old gardens, tennis lawn, lily pond, walled kitchen garden, woodland and grassland; in all nearly 9 ACRES.

TRESIDDER & Co., 37, Albemarle St., W. 1. (7,860.)

EXCEPTIONAL YACHTING FACILITIES, ANCHORAGE, PRIVATE BEACH, TWO BOATHOUSES and SLIP.

FALMOUTH HARBOUR (frontage to sea; secluded; beautiful views).—Delightful family RESIDENCE, in excellent order.

4 reception, 3 bathrooms, 15 bed and dressing. Electric light. Central heating. Phone.

Garages, stabling, staff rooms, 4 cottages.

Beautiful grounds, tennis, kitchen garden, orchard and LONG FRONTOAGE to estuary; farmhouse, cottage and farmbuildings and excellent land, 25 or 70 ACRES.

TRESIDDER & Co., 37, Albemarle St., W. 1. (9823.)

£2,500, FREEHOLD, INCLUDING FIXTURES.
SURREY (healthy position on hill; easy daily reach).—Excellent RESIDENCE. Lounge hall, 3 reception, 2 bathrooms, 8 bedrooms. GARAGES. Staff flat of 2 bedrooms, bathroom. Co.'s water. Electric light. Gas. Main drainage. Particularly well-stocked grounds, with flowering shrubs and trees, tennis, kitchen garden.

TRESIDDER & Co., 37, Albemarle St., W. 1. (16,406.)

£2,500, FREEHOLD. **GREAT BARGAIN.**
KENT HILLS (under hour London, 700ft. above sea level).—Delightful GEORGIAN RESIDENCE. Co.'s water. Telephone. Lounge hall, billiard room, 3 reception, 2 bathrooms, 11-12 bedrooms, 2 garages, 5-roomed cottage. BEAUTIFULLY TIMBERED GROUNDS, lovely old lawns, tennis, walled kitchen garden, etc.; in all about 2 ACRES.

TRESIDDER & Co., 37, Albemarle St., W. 1. (9120.)

SUFFOLK (within easy reach of Woodbridge, Ipswich and Aldeburgh).—Magnificent XVIIth century MANSION, seated in finely timbered park, approached by 3 long drives, each with lodge at entrance. The accommodation comprises: Lounge hall, panelled walnut, suite of reception rooms, 8 bathrooms, 24 bed and dressing rooms. Electric light. Central heating. Telephone. Excellent stabling, garages, several cottages, ample outbuildings; lovely old gardens, 3 tennis courts, walled kitchen garden, orchard, cricket ground, covered swimming bath, etc.

FOR SALE WITH 730 ACRES (or less). THE ESTATE AFFORDS VERY GOOD SHOOTING.

TRESIDDER & Co., 37, Albemarle St., W. 1. (6730.)

ESTATE OFFICES,
RUGBY.
18, BENNETT'S HILL,
BIRMINGHAM.

JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK

LONDON, RUGBY, OXFORD AND BIRMINGHAM

44, ST. JAMES'S PLACE,
LONDON, S.W.1.
140, HIGH ST., OXFORD,
AND CHIPPING NORTON.



A TRULY DELIGHTFUL SMALL RESIDENCE AMIDST THE SUSSEX DOWNS, NEAR LEWES

Quiet and secluded from traffic, with a glorious view of a wide range of the Downs. WITH ELEVEN-AND-A-HALF ACRES AND ONE COTTAGE, £4,000.

WITH 180 ACRES, £6,000.

(More land can be purchased.)

ACCOMMODATION: Central hall (19ft. by 14ft.) with open fireplace, drawing room (24ft. by 17ft.), dining room (19ft. by 14ft.) excellent offices, six bedrooms, bathroom.

BEAUTIFUL OLD GARDENS.
Stabling, garage and magnificent farmbuildings.

FISHING RIVER FLOWS THROUGH PROPERTY.

Everything in beautiful order.

Inspected and thoroughly recommended by JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, S.W. 1. (L.R. 10,151.)



AUCTIONEERS.

7, BAKER STREET, WEYBRIDGE (Tel. 62).

EWBANK & CO.

ESTATE AGENTS.

Also at Addlestone and Cobham, SURREY.

On the fringe of St. George's Hill.

WEYBRIDGE, SURREY

A MODERN HOUSE of real character, subject of an article in COUNTRY LIFE under "Lesser Country Houses of to-day."



Designed in the XVIIth century style, with a wealth of oak beams (from Nelson's "Marlborough"); oak paneling, floors, etc. In a most attractive position near golf and lawn tennis clubs. ACCOMMODATION: Nine bed and dressing rooms, three bathrooms, three reception rooms, lounge, hall, outside large playroom; two garages; greenhouse. All public services.

Running water in all bedrooms.

GROUPS of great beauty of about two acres, including natural woodland, inexpensive in upkeep.

Convenient for station with fast service to Waterloo. Price and full details from the Owner's Sole Agents, EWBANK & Co., as above.

WEYBRIDGE, SURREY

The ideal residential area near London. Waterloo 36 minutes. Station three-quarters of a mile.

BUILT 1913, AND NOW IN MARKET FOR FIRST TIME.

Adjoining the golf course and overlooking the fourth green.

ST. GEORGE'S HILL ESTATE,
WEYBRIDGE, SURREY.

Combining luxury with economy of upkeep.

OWNER HAVING PURCHASED a smaller PROPERTY in the locality, will SELL the above, which is ideally situated, planned and equipped.

ACCOMMODATION: Seven or eight bed, one dressing and two bathrooms, two reception rooms, lounge or BILLIARD ROOM, excellent offices; all services; double garage; BEAUTIFUL GROUNDS of about one-and-a-half acres, with gate on to links.

Southern aspect. Gravel soil. Near station.

Illustrated particulars, price and all other information obtainable from the Owner's Sole Agents, EWBANK & Co., as above.

PRICE £4,500 FREEHOLD, with two-and-a-quarter acres, or less at proportionately lower price.

Full details from the Owner's Sole Agents, EWBANK & Co., as above.

Exceptionally well-constructed MODERN RESIDENCE in picturesque setting, built about 25 years ago and now in the market for the first time. Close to ST. GEORGE'S HILL Golf and Lawn Tennis Clubs. ACCOMMODATION: Six or seven bedrooms, one dressing, two bathrooms, three reception, well-fitted and equipped and in excellent order. Garage; small greenhouse. All public services. The WELL-DESIGNED GROUNDS which are very attractive, well timbered and include lawn tennis and other lawns, woodland, fruit and vegetable garden, inexpensive to maintain. An unusually bright and sunny Property.

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Full details from the Owner's Sole Agents, EWBANK & Co., as above.

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PRICE £4,500 FREEHOLD, with two-and-a-quarter acres, or less at proportionately lower price.

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Exceptionally well-constructed MODERN RESIDENCE in picturesque setting, built about 25 years ago and now in the market for the first time. Close to ST. GEORGE'S HILL Golf and Lawn Tennis Clubs. ACCOMMODATION: Six or seven bedrooms, one dressing, two bathrooms, three reception, well-fitted and equipped and in excellent order. Garage; small greenhouse. All public services. The WELL-DESIGNED GROUNDS which are very attractive, well timbered and include lawn tennis and other lawns, woodland, fruit and vegetable garden, inexpensive to maintain. An unusually bright and sunny Property.

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Exposed oak beams. Inglenook fireplaces. Five bedrooms, tiled bathroom, three reception rooms, tiled domestic offices. Two garages. Land up to FOURTEEN ACRES. Two cottages and producing income of £40 p.a.

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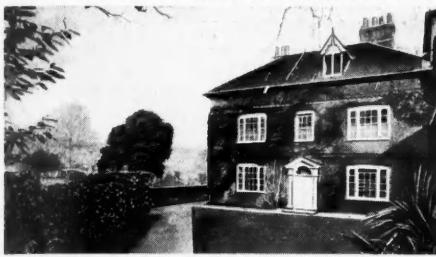
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Two miles Midhurst, eight miles Petersfield. Frontage to the River Rother.

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Electric light. Company's water, etc. £3,000, FREEHOLD.

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TO BE LET, FURNISHED, FOR SUMMER OR LONGER BY ARRANGEMENT.



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Oak-panelled walls, polished oak floors; basins in bedrooms; teak-beamed ceilings, drainage. 12 BED AND DRESSING, 3 RECEPTION, 3 BATH, BILLIARD LOUNGE 31ft. by 21ft., OFFICES AND MAIDS' SITTING ROOM. SPACIOUS GARAGE FOR THREE CARS, AND COTTAGE. BEAUTIFULLY DISPOSED GROUNDS on a southern slope, hard and grass tennis courts, clipped yew hedges, kitchen garden and paddock; in all about TWELVE ACRES, IN PERFECT ORDER THROUGHOUT.

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Five attic rooms and
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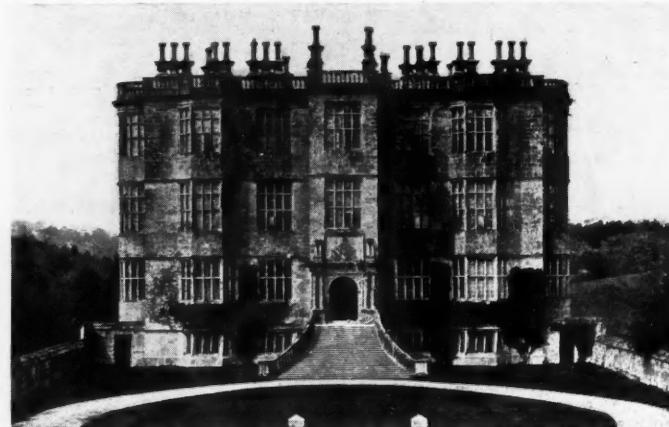
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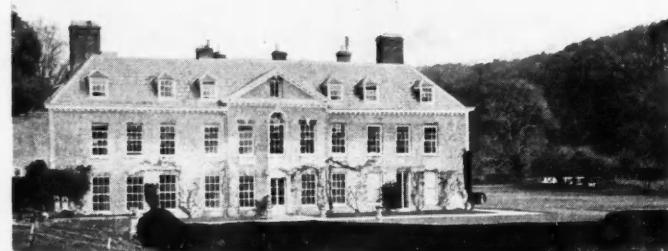
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Hall, billiard room, two reception, nine bed and two bathrooms. (Excellent attics.)
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HUNTING THREE PACKS.
Three reception, eight bed, bath. Excellent stabling.
GARAGE. FIVE ACRES. LOVELY VIEWS.

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EXCELLENT ORDER.

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TENNIS. WOULD BE LET.

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Two garages (not suitable conversion into cottage); glass house; prolific gardens, with many sub-tropical plants, fruit and rose trees, tennis court, etc. ONE ACRE.—RIPON, BOSWELL & CO., Exeter. (9954.)

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CROCKHAM HILL

CHARMING RESIDENCE.
Seven bedrooms, Bathroom, Three reception rooms.
Cottage, Garage, Stabling.
BEAUTIFUL MATURED GROUNDS OF TWO-AND-A-HALF ACRES.
PRICE GREATLY REDUCED.

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HOUSE

Of historical interest and containing many quaint characteristics of the period.

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FISHING, HUNTING, SHOOTING, SAILING.

LOVELY LITTLE OLD-WORLD RESIDENCE; three reception, four or five bed, bath; main water; stabling, garage; sandy loam soil; modern drainage. Rates only £9 per annum. Pretty gardens.

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PERFECT IN EVERY DETAIL.
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WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY EVEN FOR THE
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FOR SALE AT A "TIMES" PRICE.

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DESIGNED BY SIR REGINALD BLOMFIELD. **CHARMING COUNTRY RESIDENCE** with all advantages of a Town house; every modern convenience, labour saving to a degree, main electric light, water, drainage and gas, central heating, fitted lavatory basins; galleried hall, three fine reception rooms, eight bedrooms, dressing room, two baths, excellent offices, maid's hall; splendid garage, two cottages.

LOVELY GARDENS OF TWO ACRES, easily maintained by one man.

OVER £1,500 RECENTLY SPENT ON CHARMING DECORATIONS.

If you are looking for a really nice place DO NOT FAIL TO SEE THIS.

ONLY £3,950 ASKED

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KNOWN TO BE THE BEST GRAZING FARM IN DEVONSHIRE GENTLEMAN'S IDEAL PROPERTY

AN OPPORTUNITY OCCURS TO PURCHASE PRIVATELY undoubted the finest GRAZING FARM in the whole of Devon, about 220 acres, land which will readily fatten a bullock to the acre without cake and carry 400 sheep in addition; water in every field. Gentleman's charming Residence; seven bed, three reception, bath (b, and c.); approached by avenue; electric light throughout House and buildings; stalls for 100 cattle with water laid on to each beast, four cottages. Good sporting and excellent society. Very reasonable price considering the exceptionally high standard, the capabilities and unique attractiveness of the Estate.—Full details of BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY, 88, Brompton Road, S.W.3.

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AMIDST INCOMPARABLE SCENERY.

IDEAL GEORGIAN HOUSE, beautifully secluded position, possessing well-proportioned rooms. Approached by two well-timbered drives (both with lodges). Good hall, four reception (parquet floors), eight bedrooms, well-fitted bathroom, splendid offices, servants' sitting room. Electric light. Garage for three cars, good stabling, two cottages (in addition to the two lodges). Pretty gardens with sloping lawns, beautiful shrubberies, masses of rhododendron, walks with tropical plants, etc., tennis court.

FOURTEEN ACRES FREEHOLD, £4,250

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AN IDEAL YACHTSMAN'S HOME.



Views over the Solent to the Isle of Wight.

FOR SALE.—Halls, suite of four reception rooms, ten principal and five other bedrooms, four bath rooms, complete self-contained domestic offices.

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CENTRAL HEATING, MODERN DRAINAGE.
GARAGE for four. Chauffeur's room, workshop, etc.

GROUND OF TWO-AND-A-HALF ACRES, attractive in character, including tennis court and woodland with stream.

Particulars, HEWITT & Co., as above.

NEW FOREST.

WITH POSSESSION IN SEPTEMBER.

Near main line station and golf links.

FREEHOLD COUNTRY RESIDENCE.—Three reception, seven bedrooms and bathroom; electric light; charming garden of THREE-QUARTERS OF AN ACRE. Garage, etc.

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COST NEARLY £2,000. NOW £1,200.

SUITABLE FOR PRIVATE OCCUPATION.—OR GUEST HOUSE.—Six principal and three secondary bedrooms, three reception rooms.

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BOLDRE.—GEORGIAN PERIOD RESIDENCE three reception, seven bed, two bath; stables and garage; attractive gardens and grounds of ONE-AND-A-HALF ACRES.

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WEST SUFFOLK (Newmarket thirteen miles and Bury St. Edmund's seven miles).—The small Residental PROPERTY known as "Hawkedon Rectory," comprising substantially erected Residence containing four reception and eight bedrooms, etc.; garage, stabling, etc., and paddock; in all about ten acres, which

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For SALE, the attractive ESTATE of West Ardow, Dervaig, extending to 750 acres, including well-built House in good repair, containing three public rooms, five bedrooms, servants' room, bathroom with h. and c., etc., etc.; five-roomed farmhouse, and steading with suitable farmbuildings; the lands, which are presently in the owners' hands, will carry 300 black-faced sheep, a number of cattle, and two horses, and afford good mixed sport. Fishings.—For further particulars apply to D. M. MACKINNON & Co., Solicitors, the British Linen Bank Buildings, Oban.

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Commanding unrivalled sea views.
 Six bedrooms, two bathrooms, fine half-timbered lounge hall with balustraded gallery, two magnificent reception rooms, kitchen and complete domestic offices.

GARAGE FOR TWO CARS.
 Chauffeur's room over.

DELIGHTFUL MATURED GARDEN.

COST PRESENT OWNER £8,500.
NEAREST REASONABLE OFFER TO £6,500 SECURES.



BEAUTIFUL NEW FOREST

In a favourite locality close to station.

TO BE SOLD, this very attractive small Freehold RESIDENCE, facing South and in excellent condition throughout. Four bedrooms, bathroom, two reception rooms, lounge hall, kitchen and offices; garage, out-buildings; Company's water, electric light available. Well-planned pleasure grounds, paddock, the whole extending to an area of about **TWO ACRES**. Price £2,500, Freehold.—Fox & Sons, Land Agents, Bournemouth.

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IN A PICTURESQUE MODEL OLD-WORLD VILLAGE. THREE MILES FROM SHAFTESBURY

Beautifully situated about 600ft. above sea level, and commanding magnificent country views.

A VERY FINE RESIDENCE OF GEORGIAN CHARACTER.

absolutely secluded within its own beautiful grounds.

Eleven bedrooms, two dressing rooms, two bathrooms, day and night nurseries, four reception rooms, boudoir, servants' hall, butler's pantry, complete domestic offices. Electric lighting, central heating, telephone.

STABLING, GARAGES.
TWO COTTAGES.

THE PLEASURE GROUNDS are a feature of the property, and were remodelled under the supervision of a landscape gardener.



They include stone-paved terraces, wide grassed walk flanked by herbaceous borders, rose garden, tennis lawn, sunk garden, walled kitchen garden, paddock and woodlands, the whole extending to an area of about

HUNTING.

50 ACRES.

GOLF.

Particulars may be obtained of the Sole Agents, Messrs. Fox & Sons, Bournemouth and Southampton.



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Six miles from Basingstoke, twelve miles from Winchester. Standing 400ft. above sea level; nice secluded position.

FOR SALE, this picturesquely old-fashioned COTTAGE RESIDENCE, in excellent order throughout; five bedrooms, bathroom, two sitting rooms, kitchen and offices; garage; acetylene gas. The grounds comprise flower and kitchen gardens, lawn, orchard; the whole extending to an area of about **ONE ACRE**.

Vacant possession on completion.

PRICE £1,600, FREEHOLD.

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ON THE BORDERS OF DORSET AND SOMERSET

HUNTING WITH THE BLACKMORE VALE AND THE SPARKFORD VALE HARRIERS.

In a picturesque situation within easy reach of a station.

A PERFECT TUDOR MANOR HOUSE, built of Ham Hill stone, containing oak paneling and beams, open stone fireplaces and stone mullioned windows.

Seven bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom, two reception rooms, panelled lounge, servants' hall, kitchen and complete domestic offices.

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Large garage. Stabling for three horses.

THE OLD-WORLD GARDENS are well laid-out and inexpensive to maintain. They include rose garden with crazy pavement and herbaceous borders, tennis court, walled kitchen garden; the whole extending to an area of about

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PRICE £2,750, FREEHOLD.



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ELEVEN MILES FROM DORCHESTER.

SEVEN MILES FROM BLANDFORD.

The important and delightfully situated Freehold, Residential and Sporting Property, known as

"DELCOMBE MANOR."

MILTON ABBAS, DORSET.

The Residence stands about 550ft. above sea level, with fine views of the surrounding country.

Eight bedrooms, two bathrooms, four reception rooms, entrance hall, servants' sitting room, butler's pantry, complete domestic offices.



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CENTRAL HEATING, PRIVATE ELECTRIC LIGHTING PLANT, TWO GARAGES, EXCELLENT STABLING, OUTBUILDINGS, TWO COTTAGES.

BEAUTIFUL GROUNDS,

including lawns, flower gardens, walled kitchen garden, also woodland, pasture and arable lands, the whole extending to an area of about

137 ACRES.

PRICE £4,000, FREEHOLD.

Additional woodlands of 183 acres can be purchased if required.

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WIDE SWEEPING LAWNS.

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GLASSHOUSES.

DETACHED FOUR-ROOMED COTTAGE IN THE GROUNDS.

Gardener's cottage.

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GARAGE FOR THREE CARS.

VALUABLE FRONTAGE TO THE BORDERS OF HEATH.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Owner's Agents,
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ON THE NORTHERN HEIGHTS OF LONDON.

280ft. above sea level, and commanding beautiful views across

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THIS FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL ESTATE
FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY,
comprises aDETACHED RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER,
set back 250ft. from the road and standing in about
THREE-AND-A-HALF ACRES OF FINE OLD TIMBERED
GROUNDS.MAGNIFICENT AND LOFTY SALON, 56ft. by 50ft. with oak-panelled
walls and oak staircase to gallery.
FOUR HANDSOME RECEPTION ROOMS,
FIFTEEN BED AND DRESSING ROOMS,
FIVE BATHROOMS, ETC.
OAK FLOORS,
Domestic offices on hall floor

VIEW FROM THE TERRACE.

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THE OLD POST OFFICE, BATH.CENTRE OF THE BEAUFORT HUNT.
LUCKINGTON MANORPARTLY XVTH CENTURY.
MENTIONED IN DOMESDAY BOOK.
ON TWO FLOORS ONLY.Three reception, thirteen bedrooms, five bathrooms;
unspoiled; every convenience and comfort.
Two garages. Stabling for eight. Cottage.
Old tithe barn and paddock.ATTRACTIVE GARDENS. THREE ACRES.
More land if required.For SALE by AUCTION (with but low protective prices to ensure Sales taking place), on THURSDAY,
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ST. ALBANSIN A
FAVOURITE RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT.
EASY REACH OF PUMP ROOM AND BATHS.Four reception, twelve bedrooms, two bathrooms.
Main services. Central heating. Garage. Stabling.
Chauffeur's quarters.SECLUDED GARDENS. ONE ACRE.
Hard tennis court.HERTFORDSHIRE
Four miles from Hatfield. Three miles from Hertford.
Recently completed.CHARMING OLD ENGLISH TYPE
RESIDENCEin rural surroundings. Very soundly constructed, old
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beamed ceilings, oak staircase, oak floors, the whole carried
out in correct period and most attractive.THE HOUSE, which has been carefully planned,
contains hall, three reception rooms, cloakroom (lavatory),
kitchen, scullery and usual offices, four bedrooms (three
with basins, h. and c.), bathroom, heated linen cupboard
and w.c. Briquette fireplaces throughout. Electric light
and heat points. HALF-AN-ACRE OF LAND, w
stocked with matured fruit trees.

Close to station, three-quarters of an hour from London.

To fully appreciate this Property it should be viewed.
PRICE £1,975 FREEHOLD. More land if required.
Apply A. G. MOUSLEY, Cole Green, Hertford. Phon
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TO LET, FURNISHED.
MAY AND JUNE.FINE OLD IMPOSING RESIDENCE, occup
unique position, 400ft. above sea level, with exte
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ten bedrooms, two bathrooms, three reception rooms, bill
room and study, nursery, etc., principal rooms 25ft. by
Beautifully furnished throughout. Rent 20 guineas per w
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COUNTRY MANSION, containing three reception rooms,

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domestic offices, electric light, central heating, telephone,

unfailing supply of good spring water; beautiful pleasure

grounds, including two tennis lawns and productive kitchen

garden, which are not large and are inexpensive to maintain;

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Property is situated about one-and-a-half miles from a market

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Place, S.W.7. Two small houses converted into one,
giving four reception rooms on the ground floor, ten bedrooms,
two bathrooms, and light half-basement containing kitchen,
servants' hall, etc. Recently modernised with central heating
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THE WHOLE ESTATE IN EXCELLENT ORDER AND THOROUGHLY WELL KEPT UP. INEXPENSIVE GROUNDS.



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25 MILES FROM BIRMINGHAM
Only three hours from Paddington

THE RESIDENCE is unpretentious, but interesting in character, easy to run, and fitted with all modern conveniences and comforts. Lounge hall, billiard and three reception rooms, ten bedrooms, three bathrooms, compact offices.

ELECTRIC LIGHT,
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Good stabling and garages.
Nine cottages.

THREE EXCELLENT FARMS
Producing £1,000 per annum.



GOOD SHOOTING (extra 900 acres can be rented).

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TROUT STREAM AND POOLS

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Overlooking heathland and pine-clad hills.



AN ATTRACTIVE OLD-WORLD COTTAGE
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£2,300 WITH THREE ACRES.
£2,600 WITH SEVEN ACRES.

BOATING AND BATHING LAKE AND NUMBER OF TROUT PONDS AND STREAM



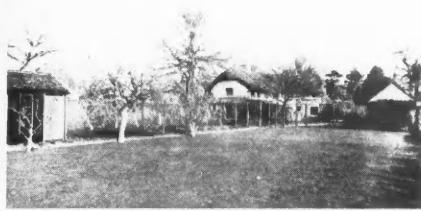
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CHARMING SMALL RESIDENCE, commanding delightful vista over spring-fed pools and meadowland lying below it. Two reception, verandah, five bedrooms, balcony, bathroom, etc.; servants' bungalow, gardener's bungalow, two garages, etc. Electric light, Coy's water. Well-timbered grounds, gardens with tennis lawn.

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“THE COTTAGE,” BURTON, HANTS

IN A PRETTY VILLAGE and unspoilt rural surroundings, yet only seven miles from the centre of Bournemouth. Lounge hall, two or three sitting rooms, five bedrooms, bathroom and servants' room with bath. Garage and stable. Main gas and water. Three-quarters of an acre gardens with tennis lawn.

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IN THE TYROLESE MOUNTAINS, AUSTRIA

MOST BEAUTIFUL SCENERY.

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330 ACRES
OF GROUNDS MORE
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EIGHT BEDROOMS,

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AN UNIQUE
FREEHOLD ISLAND SITE
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GRITNAM, BANK, LYNDHURST,
ENTIRELY SURROUNDED BY WOODLAND,
comprising
A BRICK-BUILT AND SLATED COTTAGE CALLED
"ROSEMARY,"
AND FIVE SMALL DWELLINGS,

will be offered by AUCTION at the Auction Mart, 17, Above Bar, Southampton, on Friday, March 31st, 1933, at 3 p.m., with VACANT POSSESSION of "Rosemary." The five dwellings are decontrolled.

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By Order of the Public Trustee re C. Louch, Esq., deceased.

NEW FOREST



THE CHOICE LITTLE FREEHOLD
SPORTING AND RESIDENTIAL ESTATE of
about 52 ACRES,

with Fishing Rights in a tributary of the River Test, and
with comfortable Residence, known as
COLBURY HOUSE, LITTLE TESTWOOD,

in the Parish of Netley Marsh, will be submitted to
AUCTION, unless Sold in the interim, on Friday,
March 31st, 1933, at the Auction Mart, 17, Above Bar,
Southampton.

Printed particulars and plans of the Auctioneers at the
place of Sale.

NEAR THE SOLENT

THE THATCHED COTTAGE,
LYMINGTON.

This attractive thatched-roof COUNTRY RESIDENCE,
in grounds of about

THREE ACRES.

and containing lounge hall, three reception rooms (one
29ft. by 16ft.), six bedrooms, two attic rooms, two bath-
rooms, servants' hall, and convenient domestic apartments.

Double garage, stabling and out-
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(easily convertible into a cottage).

CHARMING GROUNDS AND KITCHEN GARDEN.

MAIN DRAINAGE AND WATER.
ELECTRIC LIGHT AND GAS.

Yachting and golf within a mile.

FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY.

PRICE, FREEHOLD, £3,000.

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FOR SALE. MOST ATTRACTIVE SMALL RESIDENTIAL ESTATE AT LOW PRICE



LINCOLNSHIRE

EIGHT MILES FROM LOUTH AND GRIMSBY.
200FT. ABOVE SEA LEVEL.

EXCELLENT MODERATE-SIZED RESIDENCE

(with ten bedrooms, hall, three reception rooms).

WELL-TIMBERED PARK, LODGE, FOREMAN'S HOUSE and FOUR COTTAGE

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478 ACRES OF LAND

(including 120 acres of pasture).

IN A GOOD SPORTING NEIGHBOURHOOD.

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SITUATED IN BROCKLESBY HUNT.

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A BARGAIN AT £1,400

GLOS.—Secured COUNTRY HOUSE, in splendid
order, high up with lovely views over the River Wye.
Three reception, six bed, bath; outbuildings; orchard,
wood, gardens and grassland; in all nearly THIRTEEN
ACRES.—Photos and details from W. HUGHES & SON,
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MENDIP HILLS, SOMERSET.—ESTATE of
over 250 ACRES with commodious RESIDENCE,
farmhouse and lands, three lodges, woods, etc. Income
about £300 exclusive of House. Price £6,000.—W. HUGHES
and SON, LTD., Bristol.

A BARGAIN.

HEREFORDSHIRE.—Old-fashioned COUNTRY
HOUSE (three reception, eight bedrooms) with
buildings and about 100 ACRES of land, in a beautiful
district. Price only £3,000.—W. HUGHES & SON, LTD.,
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£2,250 will BUY A FINE OLD RESIDENCE (up
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grounds of about ten acres, including a LAKE. N.B.—
About 140 acres if required.—Photo and details from
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SOMERSET.—Stone-built COUNTRY HOUSE;
300ft. up, approached by a long drive through park-
lands, in a sunny spot; three reception, seven principal
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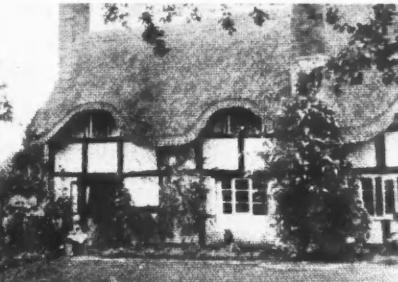
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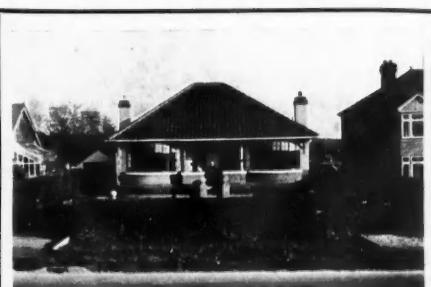
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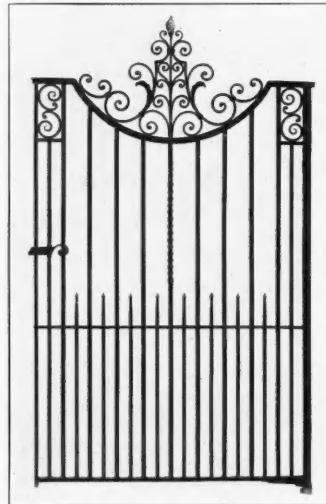
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PROSPECTS of PEDIGREE STOCK

THE OXFORDSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The first of the important summer shows is that held under the auspices of the Oxfordshire Agricultural Society, whose two-day event is arranged to be held at Witney on May 16th and 17th. The prize list is now available, and classification is provided for shorthorns, dairy shorthorns, British Friesians, Aberdeen-Angus, Jerseys, Guernseys, Red Poll and Ayrshire cattle, Shire horses, hunters, jumping, driving and children classes. The sheep include Oxford Downs, Hampshire Downs, Southdowns, and Kerry Hills. The pigs catered for are Berkshires, Middle Whites, Large Whites, Wessex Saddlebacks, and Large Blacks. Goats, produce and live poultry are also included. Copies of the prize list may be obtained from Major A. Bridgewater, 65, St. Giles, Oxford.

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURAL BOTANY.—It is a characteristic feature of modern farming that, just as different breeds of stock have

varieties in different parts of England. The trials and observation plots have provided authoritative information about the principal varieties of cereals, sugar beet and lucerne, they have been instrumental in preventing the introduction of more than twenty unsatisfactory new varieties of cereals, and have effectively discouraged the distribution of others; work is in progress with grasses, clovers and fodder crops; the co-operation of kindred institutions and County Agricultural Organisers throughout the country has been obtained; substantial progress has been made in the elimination of synonyms; the results of all this work have been given wide publicity; and pure stocks of cereals are marketed each year. There is no one ingredient of success which the farmer can more easily control than the selection of variety; the facts that good varieties cost no more to grow than bad ones and that there may be a difference of over 20 per cent. in the net cash return between the best and worst of the available



HEREFORDS FOR AUSTRALIA

During the last few weeks quite a few high-class Hereford bulls have been purchased for shipment to Australia, a particularly notable transaction has been the sale of Mr. H. R. Dent's yearling Eyton-Brigadier to join the famous herd of Mr. C. S. Roontree. This bull, bred by Mr. Craig Tanner, won first as a calf at the Royal Welsh Show last year, the only time shown.

been carefully bred to meet the needs of present-day agriculture, so also attention is being paid by plant breeders to placing on the market strains of high-yielding crops. The testing of varieties under differing conditions is being fostered by the activities of the National Institute of Agricultural Botany, Cambridge, and the thirteenth report of its activities has just been issued. The aims of the Crop Improvement Branch are: (a) to discover by field trials and observation plots which varieties, old or new, of the principal agricultural crops are the most remunerative to grow in the different districts of England under conditions of normal and intensive manuring and to bring the results to the notice of farmers; (b) to grow on market through the seed trade new varieties entrusted to the Institute for that purpose by plant breeders, if the trials show that they merit introduction; (c) to assist the seed trade in maintaining the standard of cereal seed by growing and selling annually to merchants pure stocks of about 100 quarters each of non-proprietary varieties of cereals of proved merit; (d) to simplify the work of breeders, merchants and farmers by preventing the use of more than one name for each variety. Work began on these lines in 1921. In the interval the necessary organisation has been created and improved, and now consists of a Headquarters Trial Ground of 72 acres at Cambridge with a modern granary and seed drying and cleaning plant, and five permanent sub-stations with resident crop recorders for testing

varieties are a measure of the value of crop improvement work.

OAT VARIETY TRIALS.—From the Department of Agriculture, the University College of North Wales, Bangor, a new report on Oat Variety Trials carried out by the department in North Wales has just been issued and may be obtained free of charge on application to Professor R. G. White. The report is comprehensive and valuable to those who farm in districts in which the trials have been carried out. Information of the character contained in the report is specially desirable in view of the large number of varieties which are chosen by farmers, often irrespective of their suitability for different localities.

PRICE TRENDS.—A certain degree of optimism prevails among pedigree stock breeders that improved trade prospects are in store. This is to some extent the outcome of improved prices for commercial animals. Pig prices are generally in a more healthy state than for some time past. The County Mental Hospital herd at Whittingham, Lancs., returned the high average of £10 10s. 5d. for the 192 lots disposed of, representing the Large White, Middle White and Tamworth breeds. The price level of young pigs continues to rise, and there is every hope of better times materialising. Dairy cattle prices, on the other hand, have not maintained a satisfactory level, though this is quite a normal experience, having regard to the period of the year.



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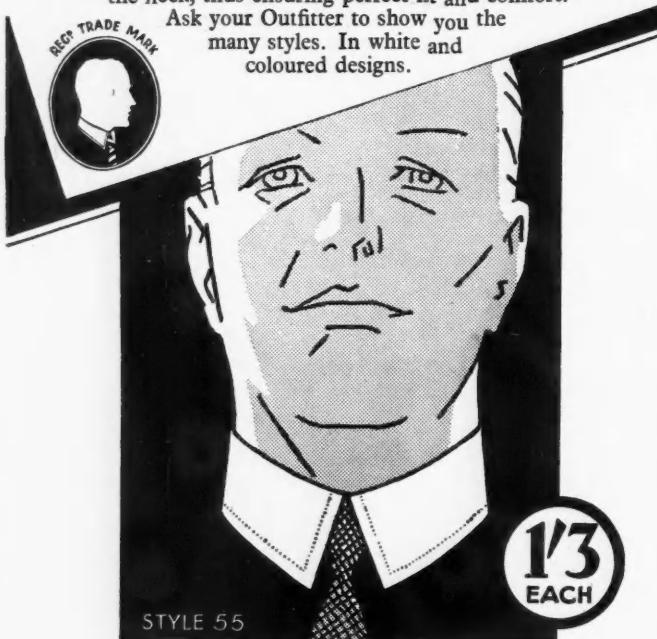
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Regulated Agriculture

WHEN Dr. Addison's Agricultural Marketing Bill of 1931 was being discussed and freely criticised both in and out of Parliament, we ventured to say that, though it might not be an entirely adequate measure, it was a great deal better than nothing, and that if any British Government should later on be willing and able to introduce some regulation of imports, the Bill would provide the necessary machinery for the complementary organisation of home marketing. Almost immediately afterwards came the financial crisis and the formation of the first National Government. It has always been within the power of the present Government which succeeded it to adopt a policy of regulation; it has, in fact, by a series of agreements, already done so. The Agricultural Marketing Bill, introduced last Monday, proposes to make the system permanent by arming the Board of Trade with powers to regulate imports from abroad wherever it can be shown that without such restriction the reorganisation of any branch of home agriculture by means of a marketing scheme cannot be fully effective. The fact is, of course, that no scheme prepared, however skilfully, under the 1931 Act could have the faintest hope of success so long as the home markets were liable to be swamped

at any moment by what Major Elliot called, the other night, "an unorganised flood of produce landed on our shores in a succession of bankrupt sales." But once a permanent system of regulation of imports is established, the case of any branch of the agricultural industry which refuses to put forward a workable scheme for its own reorganisation on the lines laid down by the Act becomes immeasurably weaker. It ceases, in fact, to have a case at all.

Having then guaranteed an industry that its remunerative price level shall not be swamped by floods of imported commodities, the Government calls upon that industry to organise the home market and the supplies to that market. And in the present Bill it goes further. The Bill takes it for granted that the producer is not merely interested in growing his produce, but in what is done with it afterwards, and that he and the manufacturer ought obviously to come together to organise the secondary products, the processed foods—the outlets for gluts, and surpluses of all kinds—which are becoming every day more important in every walk of the industry. What the Government have in view is obvious. It is nothing less than the extension to all branches of agriculture of schemes similar to that produced by the Lane-Fox Commission for the reorganisation of the bacon trade. The pig-meat trade is worth 85 millions a year altogether. If its reorganisation can be accomplished within the time-limit laid down it will be one of the swiftest reorganisations of any trade carried out in any country. The dairy industry is equally important. The total value of milk, butter and cheese consumed in this country is 113 millions per annum. The Milk Reorganisation Commission only reported last month, but it is obvious that, unless its proposals—or some effective substitute—are put into practice before the autumn, the milk industry will be faced with as grave a crisis as those which confront other branches of agriculture. There is plenty of evidence to show that in both these great industries all those involved, producers, manufacturers and distributors, are pressing on with the consideration of the individual schemes and showing readiness to take their part in carrying them out. So far, so good; but "quantitative regulation" is just as necessary for other branches of agriculture as it is for bacon and milk. One thing can be said: that when the necessary schemes are forthcoming those who have to work them will not find themselves, if the present Bill becomes law, fettered by any lack of powers. The proposed "Development Boards" which are to control home production will have powers, for instance, to prevent unlicensed persons producing bacon, and may purchase any bacon factory for the purpose of preventing excessive production.

Another interesting proposal of the Bill is the establishment of a new Market Supply Committee whose duty it will be to review the circumstances affecting the supply of agricultural products in the United Kingdom. This will mean that relation of imports to home production will be under systematic consideration. There seems little doubt that this committee will be compelled to widen its purview and consider demand as well as supply. Perhaps that is the intention, though only the word "supply" is used in the governing clauses. Such a Bill is, of course, bound to meet with criticism. The official opposition objection to any measure which tends to raise prices merely defeats itself so long as the alternative is the ruin of a basic industry and vastly increased unemployment. As for the contention that the measure is designed to increase the profits of the middlemen, nothing could be further from the truth. One of the chief objects of the series of reorganisation schemes at present proposed is to give both producer and consumer a real voice in the organisation of the industries concerned. As Lord Wolmer pointed out in Monday's debate, the Consumers' Council will still remain under the Bill, and will have to exercise its functions under every one of the marketing schemes. The very safeguard of which the Labour Government were so proud, when the Addison Act was passed, will still remain in operation.

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COUNTRY



• NOTES •

DEMOCRACY AND DICTATORS

AN interval of halcyon weather over these islands for a few days set the troubles of the world in grim contrast, a contrast accentuated by the disaster in California. The yet greater economic tremors that have been undermining the precariously established order in every nation of the world, leave us guessing whether they will be shaken first off the gold standard or off democracy. No doubt is left, by the deputation of American farmers which has petitioned Mr. Roosevelt to assume dictatorial powers over United States agriculture, of the Middle West's swing towards autocracy. The ease with which Hitler's emissaries have seized power in the German States puts an end to the republic in all but name; while, almost overshadowed by these major revolutions, Parliamentary government has been eliminated in Austria, and for a few hours a dictator ruled in Greece. In that its ancient home, democracy, quickly reasserted itself, and no doubt in the United States democracy will resume control when the temporary delegation of power to the President has served its purpose. The rise of "tyrants"—to use the old Greek word—during recent weeks is, indeed, paralleled in this country by the enthronement of the present National Government, a genuinely democratic resort to meet the overpowering forces of circumstance. Nevertheless, it is impossible not to be struck by the similarity in the course of events all over the world to Aristotle's generalised sequence of governments: democracy lapsing into ochlocracy—the rule of the mob (and it is difficult to distinguish modern universal suffrage from that)—succeeded by tyranny, however enlightened. What was true of the city States of ancient Greece seems to hold good of "world States" no less.

WILTSHIRE

THE county that forms the occasion of Mr. Robert Byron's contribution this week to our series of English Shires has better claims than most to being regarded as the ancient heart of England. So strangely do events conspire, it is shaping equally well to become the heart of the England of the future, its "vast inane" of downland offering space both to the mechanised farmer and mechanised soldier, tankman and airman alike. "When a tank collides with the barrow of a bronze-age warrior," says Mr. Byron, "the philosopher may reflect for a change on the immutability of human affairs." Stonehenge, indeed, is a fitting situation for such reflections, and Salisbury steeple, airy offspring of a hilltop fortress immemorial centuries old, a not inapt symbol of the county's unchanging characteristics; reaching back in its turf to dim centuries of prehistory, and upwards with its spire into the element of to-morrow. Many counties, particularly those overshadowed by the "Great Wen" and its satellites, can reserve their individuality only by creating a series of reserves, or rural museums. Better to do so and to cultivate false sentiment than to fall completely beneath the heel of the builder and 'busman. But, as yet, Wiltshire is happily inviolate from major encroachments and from the need for

intensive preservation—though the preservationists whom Mr. Byron twits have at least had to come to the rescue of Stonehenge itself. Local sentiment is largely inarticulate, though in the Society of Wiltshire Men and other local organisations of marked efficiency it finds expression none the less useful for that.

INDIGNANT VIRTUE

MOST of us who still go sometimes by train have been delighted to hear that this summer we might be able to go on our holidays by means of "summer tickets" at the once familiar rate of a penny a mile. We may even have thought that everybody would be pleased, but that is not so; the owners of motor coaches are not pleased at all. They have called meetings and made representations to the Ministry of Transport, and have, so far, got little by their pains. It is not very easy to sympathise with them when they protest against "inequitable conditions." Is not, if we may so express it, the inequitable boot upon the other leg? With infinitely less taxation to pay, with no permanent way or termini to keep up, they have undersold the railway companies and taken millions of passengers away from them. Now, when the poor railway companies retaliate, they squeal. It appears to be a case for one more quotation of that pleasant couplet:

Cet animal est très méchant,
Quand on l'attaque il se défend.

UNEMPLOYED TRAINING AND RELIEF WORK

SO far as it goes, the Ministry of Labour's training camp for the unemployed at Kielder, Northumberland, should be of great benefit to the men who attend it. Batches of two hundred will be taken for periods of twelve weeks, during which forestry and quarry work will be provided, and a small training allowance be paid. The men's unemployment pay will be offset against the cost of their maintenance. A number of similar camps are to be established, with a nucleus of hutments and the sleeping tents grouped round it, where, at least, men will be able to recover physical fitness. The scheme is, at best, however, a palliative, since the work afforded is scarcely of a productive nature, although it is in connection with the Forestry Commission's development of bare uplands. An urgent instance of the productive work which Mr. Chamberlain has asserted that the Government will welcome is the drainage of the Don and Ouse valleys in South Yorkshire. Enormous areas are still flooded around Selby and Doncaster, and the wretched village of Bentley has been flooded three times in the last eighteen months. Three years ago the promise of a grant was made for work to prevent future floods, but this has since been rescinded. Any amelioration of the situation is at present held up until a Bill for transferring the area to another authority becomes law—unless the Kielder experiment is applied to such a useful purpose.

A ROSE IN WINTER

Down in the frost-bound garden where the rime
Has fringed the blades of grass with silver beads,
And blanched the dark earth and the shrivelled weeds,
A rose has blossomed out of her due time.

Smooth as a shell, it trembles in my hand,
This curving petal, delicate and rare
As the wet, rose-bloomed shell that glistens where
The storm wrack huddles on the spumy sand.

Homeless, between the cold sky and the frore,
Uncharitable earth, the late rose gleams;
A shell from summer's beaches, which the streams
Have stranded here, on winter's barren shore.

FREDA C. BOND.

THE SEVERN BARRAGE PROJECT

ANOTHER scheme which can be proved to be of productive value is the Severn Barrage project, the report on which, just issued, is of particular interest. Since the committee was set up by the Economic Advisory Council as long ago as 1926, it has had ample time to consider all the available evidence, and its conclusions should, therefore, carry very great weight. The report is highly technical in character, but three main facts emerge from it. A barrage is practicable if, along with the primary power

station, a secondary storage station is constructed to eliminate variation in a supply dependent on tidal energy. The estimated cost for the whole scheme is rather more than £38,000,000, and on the basis of this estimate power could be supplied at a figure roughly two-thirds of the cost of supply generated by coal-fired stations. The committee, by its terms of reference, had to confine its consideration to the technical possibilities of the scheme, so that no definite recommendations are made whether or not the work should be taken in hand. That remains for the Government to decide. The committee, however, are convinced that their plan is feasible, and they point out that it would give employment to an average of 12,000 men over the period of fifteen years that it would take to complete the work.

ELECTRIC SUPPLY LINES

AS representing the various interests grouped under the term amenity, the Council for the Preservation of Rural England is the most appropriate body to co-operate with the electricity supply companies and other authorities engaged in erecting power lines about the country. The number of county branches of the C.P.R.E. now in existence has enabled a regular procedure to be worked out which should ensure that amenity shall at least receive full consideration in the plotting of lines. Any deflection of a main grid line is an expensive matter, and the sinking of the cable underground costs, roughly, ten times as much as carrying it on pylons. The C.P.R.E. pamphlet points out that sinking can rarely be resorted to for that reason, but makes excellent recommendations for the unobtrusive siting of lines, concluding that a line through country thickly dotted with hedgerow timber, or along foothills, usually offers the best route for all interests. Since the early days of the Scheme the Council has recognised that the large, openly built pylons do fade away into trees or hillsides better than was expected. The same cannot be said of the local transmission lines now being erected, carried on creosoted poles. The excess in cost of underground over above-ground transmission is, in this case, much less—barely twice; and when local owners can be induced to forgo the trifling rent for poles, to dedicate wayleaves, and provide local labour for trenching, the difference practically disappears. On another page will be found a discussion of the economic advantages of the grid supply *versus* a private generating plant. But as regards the landscape, public-spirited co-operation by landowners would seem to provide the solution of such problems as recently arose at Amberley.

THE RACKETS SEASON

WITH the beginning of spring there comes every year a short and intensive season of the great game of rackets. For the rest of the year we hear too little of its heroes: now for a brief while they bloom. It seems that Mr. Ian Akers-Douglas is this year to put the brightness of all the others in the shade. He began by winning the Open Championship from Lord Aberdare; he won all the first four games, and then the holder gracefully surrendered. Here was a case of youth being served, for there must be some four and twenty years between them, and that is rather too much, great player though Lord Aberdare has been and is. Mr. Akers-Douglas thus becomes the third amateur in succession to hold the Open Championship, and the old record of the late Sir William Hart Dyke seems no longer unapproachable, as it once did. He then proceeded successfully to defend the Amateur Doubles Championship with the trusty partner with whom he played for Eton, Mr. Wagg. They beat a redoubtable couple in Messrs. J. C. F. Simpson and C. S. Crawley without losing a game, and never looked like doing anything else. Now there remains the singles Amateur Championship, which this youthful conqueror won last year. If he can win again, as he certainly ought, he will make of it what Mr. Peggotty called a "merry-go-round."

LEWES CASTLE

FEW country towns in England are more charming than Lewes, with its long High Street of fine houses and its enviable position on the slopes of the downs. But it is

its castle which is its proudest possession, the nucleus round which the town has grown up and the key to its long and interesting history. In 1923 Sir Charles Stanford, to whose benefactions Brighton owes so large a debt, purchased the castle and presented it to the Sussex Archaeological Trust. Recently, however, extensive repairs were found necessary, since the great gate-house, one of the finest examples of mediæval flintwork in the country, was in grave danger of collapsing. Last week a very timely gift was announced. In her will Dame Ellen Stanford, Sir Charles Stanford's widow, left a large legacy to the Trust to be applied to the upkeep of the fabric. By this the future preservation of the castle will be assured and the trustees relieved of a heavy burden of responsibility.

THE MOLECATCHER

In March, when the wind blows soft and wet,
And the boughs of the trees stand out like jet;
When the seagulls cry as they dip and bow,
Over the long brown lines of plough,
And the clouds are low with a thin grey rain;
The molecatcher comes on his rounds again.

Down by the hedges, across the green,
There are little brown mounds where the mole has been.
Where the primrose nods to the daffodils,
In the rich green meadows, are small dark hills;
For the little black mole comes up to the air,
Leaving his tiny Vesuvius there.

They both know each other as old foes can,
The little blind mole, and the old bent man.
For the cunning lore of that long thin spade,
Which has made generations of moles afraid,
Has been handed down from father to son,
Since the very first mole made the earliest run.

In the misty dusk, there's a full warm sack
Of black velvet fur, on his bent old back.
Now he knows every turn and twist of the holes
In the underground homes of the little black moles.
He learnt all those secrets when he was a lad,
And caught his first mole with his old granddad.

The pale, yellow primroses, washed by the rain,
Are sending their message, "It's March once again!"
The catkins are swinging just over the hill;
But the long shiny spade is clean and still.
The little blind mole can come out to-day,
For the molecatcher's travelled to fields far away.

DOROTHY JACOB.

CRAMP'S COW

M R. CRAMP was a keeper of the House of Correction at Lewes in the beginning of last century, and he owned a total area of land amounting to 1 rood 29 poles. But on it was a loose-box, and in that lived Mr. Cramp's cow. He fed her so well (and farmed his rood and a half so cleverly) that, between 1805 and 1811 she produced an average of 1,200 gallons of milk a year and attained the position of being probably the first of her kind to be "officially recorded" by the then Board of Agriculture. The story of Mr. Cramp and his cow forms the subject of an article in this month's number of the Ministry of Agriculture's *Journal*. For Cramp had discovered, and put into practice, a system of stall feeding and a diet that shows he would have had little to learn from modern scientific agriculture. There is a tender solicitude traceable in his notes that gives them something more than technical interest. "Cattle so fed have nothing to do but fill themselves and lie down to rest. No labouring after their food. . . . Where milch cows are allowed to range abroad for their food, when they are not hungry they will be searching after the sweetest spots of herbage, and thereby deprive themselves of rest. . . . I seldom give my cow two sorts of food following." Indeed, Mr. Cramp's little field (amply manured from the loose-box) produced sweet lucerne and hay, which he varied with roots, and bran, and even brewers' grains, which, to this day, are supposed to rot cows. Mr. Cramp deserves his niche beside Coke and Jethro Tull.

THE COMING OF SPRING



"A BLUE SKY DAPPLED WITH CLOUDS, ONLY A LITTLE WHITER THAN THE WHITE CHERRY BLOSSOM BELOW"

EVERY year it comes again, but who shall say exactly when? Tell me where you live: in a downland valley, amid the sheltered orchards of Kent, in the heart of Exmoor, in the broad parklands of central England, in a Pennine dale or a Scottish glen: and I can tell how you will disagree. Spring may be late—as it is said to be this year; but when it actually begins—that is a problem for each of us to solve in his own place and his own way. Somewhere or other Thomas Hardy talks of the moment when the vegetable world begins to move and swell, and in the completest silence there are bustlings, strainings, thrusts and pulls-all-together in comparison to which the tugs of cranes and pulleys in a noisy city are but pygmy efforts. This, at least, is the sense of what he said, and Hardy, as a good architect and builder, knew as much of strains and stresses as he did of cranes and pulleys. But these bustlings and pressings, being inaudible and for the most part invisible as well, they give us no real answer to our question.

Many of us find the answer in the song of some small bird. We wake up one morning to find that the east wind which has blown for weeks has suddenly veered to the south, and we catch our breath as we hear a few short unaccustomed notes from the garden. We call our Chaucer to mind once more:

Whan that Aprillē with his shoures soote
The droght of Marchē hath perced to the roote
And bathēd every veyne with swich licour
Of which vertu engendred is the flour . . .
And swetē foulēs maken melodyē
That slepeth allē night with open yē.

We may not, like Chaucer's "folk," be suddenly seized with a desire to "go on pilgrimages," but the odds are heavy on our thinking in that moment of the whole panorama of the summer to come and of half a dozen different kinds of holiday that we could well enjoy. And when we come back to earth we find that nothing is the same. There is that smell of impatient vegetation in the air, which tells us that the eternal miracle has happened once more. As we go round the farm we shall expect to see



J. Dixon-Scott
"AMID THE SHELTERED ORCHARDS OF KENT"

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R. M. Adams

"BANKS OF WHITE BELLS AS CANDID AS THE SNOWS"

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the changing signs. Day by day the moss on the tree roots will be drier, dog's-mercury will show a bright green under the ash poles. We shall watch the young grass push its way up, and the chickweed show about the gate-posts. When we go out and about we shall expect to find the daffodil in its profusion not only in our gardens, but in our copses and on the roadside banks, in the meadow and the orchard. And in the fields the chiff-chaff and the wheatear will be about, and in our southern English woodlands the yaffle, one of the loveliest of birds. And the lark, though now he may sing against a background of grey cloud, gives promise of days almost at hand when the blue sky will be dappled with clouds only a little whiter than the white cherry blossom in the woods below. The commons will be spread with

those golden bushes which Linnæus wept to see, there will be a haze of blossom surrounding the blackthorn, and the hawthorn itself will be peeping into green.

If, of course, you live so far north as the Lakeland, the daffodil will give you even more than in the south. It will overflow from the meadows and the hanging woodlands and cover the upland lawns with its green and gold livery. And if you should be from even farther north, then in that land where the snow still hangs in the corries, and the glens are filled with the sound of tumbling waters, you may still find, in the velvety alleys beneath the tasseled hazel, banks of white bells as candid as the snows that streak the blie mountains in the distance. For, though spring has come, the flowers of winter linger.



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"IT WILL COVER THE LAWNS WITH ITS GREEN AND GOLD LIVERY"

"C.L."

Famous Hunts and their Countries

THE CRAWLEY AND HORSHAM



THE CRAWLEY AND HORSHAM FOXHOUNDS AT KNEPP CASTLE
The residence of Mr. Walter Burrell. Charles Denton, huntsman, in the centre

IF Sussex has a fault, it is that its attractions are too obvious. Suppose an open-minded person looks round England in search of a home in the country. Then the chances are that he is smitten with a desire to live in Sussex, and, indeed, it is impossible not to sympathise with him. From a narrow fox-hunting point of view his choice is embarrassing for Sussex. For, though newcomers are often charming, their houses are a nuisance, and in many cases it is a laborious process turning them into fox hunters. The Crawley and Horsham country is still wild enough in all conscience on the downs or in the Forest; but that its rather populous vale not only shows consistently good sport, but lives in a fervour of excitement on hunting days, is a great tribute to the native loyalty to fox hunting.

Sussex possesses open grassland in plenty—on the downs. It has also vales in plenty—with woods to cover them. But open grass vales are not one of its characteristics. In East Sussex the low country might have remained one gigantic forest to this day had not the ironworks (whose memory is preserved by such names as Ashburnham Furnace and Darwell Furnace) required charcoal and a little fresh air. There are still hundreds of square miles of woodland there which survived the demand for charcoal. But the country hunted by the Southdown Foxhounds contains some delightful open country below the downs; and the Crawley

and Horsham have a corresponding piece, rather smaller in extent. In fact, the Crawley have several strings to their bow. They hunt the downs (the Hill, in fox hunting phraseology) between the two deep valleys of the Rivers Arun and Adur—that is to say, from Arundel to Steyning. On the north side of the Hill their share of the open weald stretches away, between the same two rivers, from Amberley nearly to Cuckfield, on the north-east, and from Steyning to Billingshurst, on the north-west. Farther north again the trees begin to assert themselves. On the Horsham side the coverts, though numerous, are not huge; but between Horsham, Crawley and Cuckfield lies St. Leonard's Forest—well worthy to be called a forest.

So there is plenty of variety with the Crawley. The Hill is hunted on Thursdays, and has plenty of good gorse coverts, but foxes do not leave it very readily. Aversion to sea bathing discourages them from going far away on the south side, and on the north they seldom embark on the heavy going of the weald. But they run up to it from some big coverts just below, and they very often make good points on the Hill itself. Hunting on that beautiful turf and in the sea air is, perhaps, best appreciated in April sunshine, but with the advantage of being able to see hound-work (whenever hounds do not run too fast), the Hill can be forgiven for its lack of jumpable fences at any time of year.



IRS. LINDSAY SMITH, AND THE HON. C. G. CUBITT, M.F.H.
Who is now Joint Master, and will act for a committee next season



COL. R. W. MCKERGOW, M.F.H.
Who retires this season after a long mastership



A MEET OF THE CRAWLEY AND HORSHAM AT WHITEMAN'S GREEN, NEAR HAYWARDS HEATH
On the left, Col. McKergow (Joint Master) is talking to Denton, the huntsman

Tuesdays are devoted to the Forest and the Cuckfield side. The Forest is strong meat for the strongest fox hunter—deep and dark. But it is extraordinary how cheerful a woodland becomes when a hard-driving pack of hounds are rousing its echoes, and the Crawley run well in St. Leonard's Forest and its various offshoots. Foxes are not easily killed there, but more than one has succumbed this season in the very depths, and after a good hunt. Nearer Cuckfield there is some good grass country, not devoid of trees, but open enough to provide a great deal of amusement for the horsemen. The Monday country is north of Horsham, on the Surrey Union border. Indeed, until two or three years ago much of it was loaned to the Surrey Union. But it is now regularly hunted by the Crawley, and, thanks to the enthusiasm of its local experts, it has lately provided such good sport that it could very ill be spared again. It is typical Sussex, with deep ghylls and many small coverts which, however, are not thick enough to stop hounds from running through them at a great pace.

But it is for Saturdays that the best of the vale is reserved. From the kennels, at West Grinstead, away to



THE HON. MRS. GUY CUBITT AND HER SON, HUGH

the foot of the Hill is all good open country, being a succession of dairy farms. Its fences are not, of course, as stiff as those in the Midland bullock pastures, but they are strong enough to need practically no wire, though well fortified here and there with rails. Incidentally, plenty of timber jumping is provided in all parts of the country by the Sussex "heave gate," which is like a big, strong hurdle, fitting into its gate-posts on the slip rail principle. It is impossible to open a heave gate without dismounting, so it has to be jumped by anyone who is in a hurry. Luckily for the Crawley, this Saturday country is largely made up of just a few big estates—Knepp Castle, West Grinstead Park, and others. These estates have survived the dissolution which has been the fate of so many elsewhere, and the fact that such a large area remains in such excellent ownership relieves the Masters of a great deal of worry. Indeed, it would be hardly possible for the Saturday crowd to do so much galloping and jumping on rather wet, low-lying grass-land, if it were not for the help and the powerful example of these owners.

The Crawley is one of those happy countries whose history is a



CRAWLEY AND HORSHAM SUPPORTERS AT KNEPP CASTLE
The Earl and Countess of Winterton and Mrs. Ulric Thynne

Mr. J. McKergow, Miss A. Ellice and Miss H. Colvin





DREARY (1932)



CHIMER (1929)

succession of long masterships, although, as the architects say, "the original structure has been much enlarged and restored." Until 1877 it really was the country round Crawley and Horsham—that is to say, the present northern half. That piece was hunted more than a hundred years ago by Colonel Jolliffe, who was Master of the Merstham Hounds, and spent most of his time in the present Surrey Union country. In 1832 he resigned, and Mr. Lee Steere of Jayes, Ockley, converted his pack of harriers into foxhounds. He hunted the Horsham and the present Surrey Union countries until 1842, and it was his grandson, Mr. Henry C. Lee Steere, who, after a long mastership of the Warnham Staghounds (1890-1917), was Master of the Surrey Union Foxhounds from 1918 to 1927. Mr. Blunt of Crabbet (noted for Arab horse breeding) was Master of the Crawley for a few months before his death in 1842. Then Mr. Charles Bethune of Denne Park, Horsham, hunted the country until 1850, with kennels at Crawley. From 1850 to 1869 Mr. Edward Stanford was Master, moving the kennels to his home at Warninglid. In 1867 sport was apparently at a low ebb; but the fortunes of the pack were restored by Colonel A. M. Calvert of Ockley Court, first with Sir R. Loder (1867-69) and later (1869-87) alone. Colonel Calvert was a most successful Master, and an excellent administrator in every way. Among other achievements, he built the present kennels at West Grinstead in 1877, and in 1879 he engaged as whipper-in Dick Kingsland, who was huntsman from 1893 to 1922 and, becoming a regular institution, showed some wonderful sport.

The reason for building new kennels was that in 1877 Mr. Napper gave up the Findon country, and the Crawley and Horsham Hounds were invited to hunt it. Thus it was that the present Thursday and Saturday countries (the Hill and the Vale respectively) were added to the old Crawley and Horsham country, which is now hunted on Mondays and Tuesdays. After Colonel Calvert retired, Colonel Godman of Woldringfold took the country and hunted it admirably for nearly thirty years (1887-1916). For his last three seasons he had as Joint-Master Colonel R. W. McKergow of Twineham Grange, thus paving the way for a third long mastership. For, with a break of four seasons during the War, Colonel McKergow has been Master ever since, and as he had previously been Master of the Southdown from 1903 to 1908, it can easily be appreciated how much Sussex fox hunting owes to him. The announcement of his resignation at the end of this season has been received with great regret, not only in Sussex, but all over the kingdom—a most loyal and enthusiastic Master of Hounds. Fortunately, his retirement involves no change of policy, for the Hunt will next season be managed by a small committee, with the Hon. C. G. Cubitt as acting Master. Mr. Cubitt is a grandson of Colonel A. M. Calvert (Master

1867-87) and a nephew of Mr. W. A. Calvert, who was acting Master for the committee during the War. Since 1928 he has been Joint-Master with Colonel McKergow, and has youth to add to these other advantages—let us hope that his mastership will be at least as long as those of his predecessors.

The War, of course, did untold damage to foxhound breeding; but the skilful work of three successive hound experts is most effectively preserved in the Crawley and Horsham kennel to-day. Colonel Calvert's greatest triumph was in securing Chieftain (1877), by Bramham Moor Racer (1872)—their Chorus (1874), and, despite the innovations that have been made from time to time, that strain still figures very largely in Crawley pedigrees. Colonel Godman introduced blood from the Warwickshire—at that time (1889-1906) at the height of their fame—and from the Berkeley. His fine pack was reduced to a shadow of its former self during the War; but under Colonel McKergow help was again sought from Berkeley, from 1920 to 1926. About the same time Lord Leconfield's kennel provided some excellent outcrosses, and since then the Brocklesby have been the chief source of fresh blood.

Lord Leconfield's strains now go right through the pack, but a good representative of them is Norman (1928), by Prisoner (1925), by Lord Leconfield's Auditor, 1921—Nonsense (1921). He is one of the very best and hardest of the dog hounds, with a great deal of character of his own. A double cross of the same blood is shown by Dreamy and Dreary (1932), a very good-looking couple of bitches by Dragon (1924), by Lord Leconfield's Drummer, 1920—Rita (1927), out of Lord Leconfield's Ringlet, 1924—Chimera (1929), by Stentor (1927), by Brocklesby Striver, 1924—Charming (1926), has the Brocklesby blood in the second generation, and is a good type of the Crawley conformation. Another of Stentor's progeny, Dorothy (1931), is the local specialist at actually killing foxes—it is curious how often in any pack the same hound manages to do the execution. The Brocklesby blood is nearly always to the fore out hunting, and Ravager (1931), by their Student (1927), has done so well that he has already earned the distinction of being used as a stallion hound. Costly and Cosy (1929), another couple as good as they are handsome, are bred on slightly different lines, being by Conrad (1923), by Whaddon Chase Pilot—Prudence (1926). All these hounds can gallop, and they are beautifully muscled, although, hunting in such a deep country, they are, perhaps, rather stouter in build than those now popular on the open grass.

The credit for the introduction of Brocklesby blood must be given to the Peaker family. For Alf Peaker, who is huntsman to that pack, is a brother not only of the Worcestershire huntsman, but also of Bert Peaker, who was huntsman to the Crawley from 1925 to 1928. Bert Peaker left to go to the Fernie, and Leicestershire



Niall Rankin

NORMAN (1928)



COSTLY (1929)

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has only increased the great reputation which he made in Sussex. His place was taken by Charles Denton, formerly first whipper-in to the Warwickshire, who has an admirable knack of making real friends both of hounds and of horses—indeed, of Crawley foxhunters too. Since 1928 he has provided scores of good gallops, and killed an exceptional number of foxes. Nothing would be more satisfactory than that he should prove to be another Dick Kingsland in length of service.

The Crawley and Horsham, if we are not mistaken, really do hunt the fox in the pre-War style of the Provinces—riding over well tended estates, with a large field, a good sprinkling of scarlet coats, and quite a good muster of farmers on horseback. Its most ardent admirers would not class the country with the grassland of the Midlands. There is too large a proportion of woodland, and the going is too deep. But why should it be necessary to take the standard from Leicestershire? Fox hunting in the Shires is admittedly fox hunting in its most exhilarating form, but man cannot live by champagne alone. It is possible to argue that the pace of the Midland grass countries is too exacting, and that they must have a constant supply of new supporters to take the place of those who are satiated with galloping and jumping.

It is certainly true that masterships there are short, and that visitors far outnumber residents.

Personally, we consider that fox hunting in its natural and most satisfying form is an exchange of hospitality between resident neighbours, and that the well conducted provincial countries, of which the Crawley and Horsham is such an excellent example, are really more characteristic of the true basis. Those other parts of the Provinces, who complain of their residents going off in motor horse-boxes to hunt in the Shires, may take heart from the example. All that is needed for complete success is enough good sportsmen to set a standard of entertaining and amusing one another at home, and to make the most of local patriotism. A country possessed of that atmosphere of hospitality is never deserted by anyone on the score of age or youth, lack of nerve or jumping fever, poverty or grandeur, or any other reason. Everyone knows his neighbour by sight, and the hounds continue, year after year, to give pleasure to the whole countryside, from the fox hunter to the farm labourer. Sussex as a whole may inspire love at first sight. But of the Crawley and Horsham country we may safely say, that the longer you look the more you will find to like and to admire.

M. F.

GAY FESTIVAL OF STEEPLE-CHASING IN THE WEST

IN normal times one would have voted the National Hunt Meeting at Cheltenham last week as a notable success. The crowds on all three days were big and gay, as if there were not a care in the world. They must have found an easy way of curtaining off inconvenient thoughts of the troubles of the world outside.

The amateur rider and the super-hunter had exceptional opportunities in the long programme of well endowed events. They bring with them a long trail of followers, especially of womenfolk, and in that way the sporting and picnic character of the festival was guaranteed. The proved steeplechaser of the highest class was there, as, for example, the brilliant Golden Miller in Miss Dorothy Paget's ownership. That horse and others brought forth the experts and the betting folk.

Again I stood impressed as I watched the great volume of money being turned over, whether with the bookmakers or with the Totalisator. Where can it all come from? Surely it must be the case that racing, a great football match, or Test cricket must act as a safety valve in times of economic and political pressure.

Personally, I went through the meeting without making the smallest wager. Betting never attracts me on this particular occasion at Cheltenham. Maybe I looked askance at the class of horse in four-mile steeplechases, the line of which is carried far out from the regulation park-like course over ridge and furrow, across a switchback line now and then, and in going which is more often holding than not. I have seen so many fail on the steep finishing hill after looking all over winners between the last two fences. Perhaps, on any other course, they would never have been caught. But the last grinding test at Cheltenham finds them out, and the plodding stayer will come into his own.

There are some exceptions, just as there are rare horses to create the rare occasions. I am thinking now of Golden Miller, who, for the second year in succession, won the Cheltenham Gold Cup of three miles and three furlongs for Miss Paget. This horse, now six years old, looks like the high-class steeplechaser he is. That is to say, he has fine size in the matter of stature, with bone and substance to correspond. In his every action he moves with confidence, and never more so than when he jumps. It is the fencing of a horse sure of himself and clever enough to

meet every new difficulty. He will show the quickness of a nimble polo pony in putting in a short stride in order that he shall not take off too soon and so risk serious trouble. Or he will deliberately stretch himself in the middle of a leap in order to make sure of the safe landing.

Just once he slightly alarmed his friends. It was when he was in front, going easily and with the race well in hand. He jumped stickily at the second fence from home. He may have slipped when taking off.

The point is that he had to extricate himself from a position which would have been too much for most horses. Then he came on to win most impressively.

Many people passed into transports of admiration, declaring that the Grand National next week was as good as over. He was already, they said, safely past the post as the winner. They were judging the horse as an individual and the general impression he created rather than by the customary method of appraising a win according to the strength or weakness of those behind the winner. For he had not disposed of a strong opposition by any means. Kellsboro' Jack has not progressed as I expected him to do. The Golden Miller confidence and swagger were not to be found in him. Holmes is just a hard-worked long-distance handicap 'chaser. Inverse has failed to enter the first class as



MISS PAGET LEADING IN INSURANCE



F. Griggs

A DOUBLE EVENT FOR MISS DOROTHY PAGET AT CHELTENHAM

Miss Paget's Insurance, who won the Champion Hurdle Cup, and Golden Miller, winner of the Cheltenham Gold Cup. Both these horses were successful in the same races last year



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AT THE FIRST FENCE FOR THE CHELTENHAM GOLD CUP

at one time seemed probable. Delaneige actually gave his best showing to finish a moderate third. The Brown Talisman has been hard at it. By comparison, Golden Miller was a fresh horse. Thomond II had by far the best form of the opposition, and he finished second, but he quite lacks the bold outline and conformation of Miss Paget's horse.

So the Gold Cup winner at Cheltenham may not have had much to beat, and he must, therefore, be judged on his fine individual showing, which, except in the one little jumping detail I have referred to, was beyond criticism. If all goes well with him at Aintree on Friday next, I really do not see what is to beat him. I feel satisfied about his stamina, and undoubtedly so about his jumping. Apart from those very essential considerations, there remains very little to come into the scale.

Weight? Well, it is only 23lb. above the bottom weights, some of whom would hardly win if allowed to start the night before. Gregalach must give him 5lb., and I regard him as a possible danger, though I must see it proved before I accept him as a 5lb. better horse. A course specialist like Annandale might beat him, but accident or misfortune would have to befall Golden Miller for that horse to win. We know such accidents do occur. I think of the brilliant Easter Hero, who once straddled the Canal Turn fence, and not only blotted himself out, but a score of others. And, again, when he spread a plate with only two fences still to cross, leaving him with major honours though in second place. My view of the big steeplechase next week is that if Golden Miller does not win, then such a horse with a highly creditable Aintree record as Annandale is quite likely to take advantage of lenient handicapping this time and win.

Space will not permit of any further extended reference to the big meeting last week. Mr. J. H. Whitney, the American supporter of our winter-time racing, has arrived to see his colours tantalisingly unsuccessful. For the second year in succession his Dusty Foot was second for the National Hunt Steeplechase, beaten this time on his merits by one named Ego, owned by Colonel Morgan Lindsay, trained by him just inside the Welsh border, and well ridden by Mr. R. H. Harding, a young cavalry officer of proved ability.

The American owner also had seconds in Thomond II (to Golden Miller) and Lone Eagle II to Sanpere for the Seven Springs 'Chase. Sanpere, by the way, was ridden by his owner, Mr. G. P. Shakerley, who later in the meeting reminded us that he has a reasonable chance of winning the Grand National on his own mare Society, who, being a great stayer, won for him the National Hunt Handicap 'Chase of four miles. That was quite a sparkling double to bring off. The other notable "double," of course, was that credited for the second year in succession to Miss Paget: the Gold Cup with Golden Miller and the Champion Hurdle Cup with Insurance.

I have said much in favour for the chances of Golden Miller and Annandale in the Grand National. I can never recommend anything but light wagering on the Lincolnshire Handicap. Many horses go to the post unfit, and the element of chance in the draw, especially when the field is a big one, is inordinate. My chief preference is for Solenoid (we do not know quite how good he is); and two others I like are Totaig and Young Native, the last-named because he will be ridden by Gordon Richards.

PHILIPPOS.

LADY WARRENDER AND
LORD LONDESBOUROUGHMISS BARCLAY, LADY O'NEILL AND
MISS LAURA CHARTERIS

LORD AND LADY HASTINGS

THE COUNTIES AND SHIRES OF GREAT BRITAIN

WILTSHIRE

By ROBERT BYRON

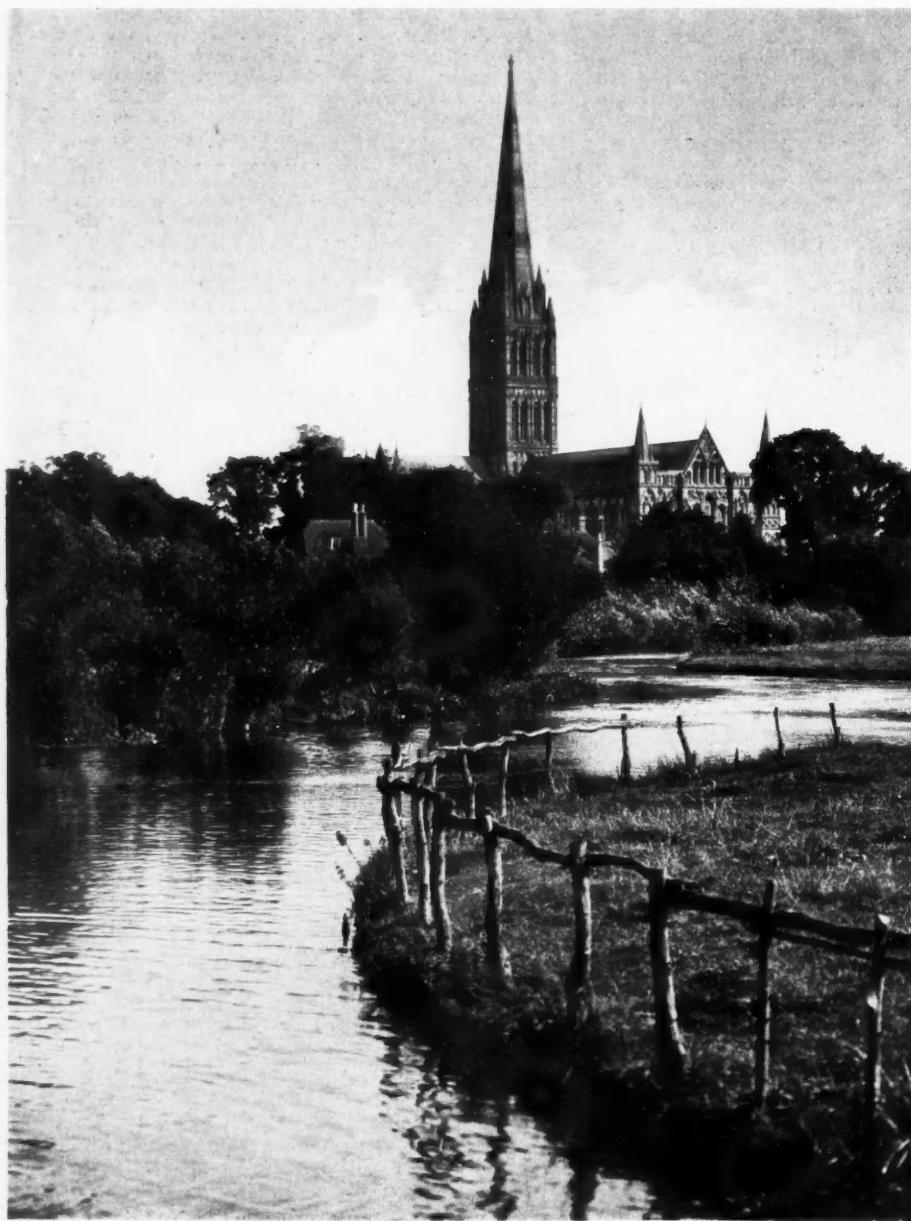
The Arcadia of Sir Philip Sidney, Wiltshire is still an idyll, because it is still unselfconscious. The wind-blown grass of its uplands has its roots in immemorial history, but Salisbury steeple soars into the infinite future—both alike emblems of the County's vital sources

OWN and country were once two opposites. But now we have a third environment, "the countryside." God forfend that Wiltshire be submerged in this anemic consciousness. Yet symptoms are visible; for the eastern boundary of the county is not seventy miles from London along the Bath Road. Already there is a movement on foot to "preserve" Wiltshire. So far we have been spared a poet; no metrical folk-taint has descended on the ancient place-names. Indeed, Constable is our only advertisement, and in such full-bodied, unaffected fashion, with Salisbury spire in the middle of each picture, that the intervening century

has proved him to be no advertisement at all. Nevertheless, the week-enders have begun to arrive out of the east, fastening on vacated thatch and vacant mansion, until, in London parlance, "my place in Wiltshire" is ousting "my place in Sussex." So be it—there are compensations. The invasion brings work to the aborigines, money to the shopkeepers, and generous entertainment to the more sophisticated natives. Let the strangers come, then. But let them be content with "country," as England has always understood the word, rather than attempt to transform their new colony into an annexe of crafts, dialects, and restored barns, to be appended to the "countryside." Better a few petrol pumps of the wrong colour than a scheduled earth-work on every down.

These words may sound more petulant than circumstances warrant, and more peremptory than is just from one whose residence in the county has lasted only fourteen years. No one will wish to asperse the admirable work of those societies which undertake to protect old buildings and famous landscapes, to prevent ribbon development, and to encourage good design in new architecture. The protest is intended against the attitude of mind which all too often accompanies these excellent activities, and which is now threatening a virgin field with its artificial emotionalism. Those who defend this attitude may argue that the organic life of field and farm is already moribund; and that only, therefore, by conscious propaganda on the part of the enlightened can the phantom that was England be preserved to tell its tale, from the security of a verdant museum, to future generations. Such argument amounts to a competition if disaster. But whereas the latter fate, once endorsed by the majority of the population, may distort its view of England for centuries to come, a reprieve for the former seems to be already in sight. There are not wanting prophets who foretell the renascence of English agriculture within the next decade. For the moment, even Farmer Beaverbrook is a more acceptable and certainly a more practical transformation of the old John Bull than Farmer Bloomsbury.

But even supposing, argue the countrysiders, that English farming revives and land again becomes a profitable investment, such a process must



SALISBURY STEEPLE



E. A. Turrell

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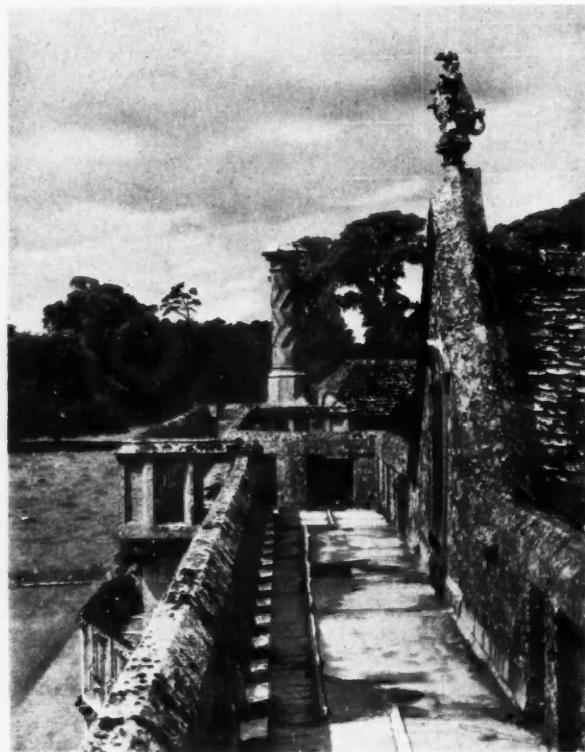
THREE CHARACTERISTIC WILTSHIRE VILLAGES: IN CASTLE COMBE (top), DOWNTON (centre),
AND LACOCK (bottom)



WILTON: THE INIGO JONES FRONT TO THE HOME OF THE EARLS OF PEMBROKE

entail increasing mechanisation. It may breed a new race of prosperous country-dwellers, speaking the silverest B.B.C., and garnering the produce of the land in sports models. But it will destroy the picturesque, as surely as barbed wire and iron troughs are now destroying the shepherds and dew-ponds of the Wiltshire downs. Why not? Shepherds and dew-ponds have become anachronisms, like other things. Stonehenge became an anachronism once. But I doubt if the particular prehistoric tribe that witnessed this event shed tears for the passing of the picturesque. If the world is changing, England must change with it. Fields have their economy as well as towns, and the health of that economy is a better safeguard to our rural beauties than all the regulations afoot that man can devise. The antiquarian of to-day must take comfort from the possibility that, in years to come, other antiquarians may be enabled to recapture the refinements of standardised speech in the early twentieth century from the inhabitants of remote villages between Warminster and Devizes.

Wiltshire, then, is not a museum, despite the paving of good intentions that surrounds each relic of the past. The inhabitants pursue their avocations, unconscious of that strange community which regards their environment as a "priceless heritage," to be defended at all costs against unesthetic petromongers. The farmers curse; but they farm, and many hunt as



PINNACLES AND GABLES OF LACOCK ABBEY



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LONGLEAT, THE SEAT OF THE MARQUESS OF BATH
Built by his ancestor, Sir John Thynne, 1547-78

"C.L."

well. The military make noises in the distance, and enliven the winter balls. Bombing squadrons take off from Upavon flying in wedge formation like flocks of silver geese. Dawn sees the horses on the gallops, strung out along the horizon as camels appear in films. At Swindon they make railway engines; at Wilton, the tradition of literature continues side by side with the manufacture of carpets. The feasts are kept: the Mop at Marlborough, the Carnival at Pewsey. If the village churches are emptier than formerly, the parson still represents a stable benefice, in which the village finds security. For, since most of the estates are very large, or were until recently, village squires are few, and their traditional functions devolve on the clergy. The villagers themselves are a dull race, having all eyes on the main chance, but lacking the wisdom of the soil or the character of the yeoman. They suffer from a sense of inferiority before the townsman. Still, the standard of intelligence, and therefore of amusement, is rising. There is much dramatic activity. The network of bus routes has placed the amenities of the market towns within common reach. Unemployment, though serious, is not yet disastrous. The magistrates are genial, the police receive lawn-mowers gratis, and the recent motor-bandit scare proved to be a series of practical jokes on the part of the Boy Scouts. The animals dwell in peace. Foxes multiply and, save in the Beaufort country, bless the encroaching wire. Till a few years

ago, a pair of golden orioles were seen regularly in Savernake Forest. Wiltshire, in fact, is still an idyll, because it moves in a leisurely way after the modern world, profiting from new interests, and rejecting that cretinous indifference to progress which delights the visitor at the expense of the native inhabitant.

A rural idyll, a place of leisurely people and diverse occupations—such a definition would fit the majority of English counties. But Wiltshire is Wiltshire; there is a personality, a *genius loci*, to be captured and stated. In some other parts of England this quarry is less elusive. Everyone knows of the smoke and the stone of the Midlands, the hops and the oast-houses of Kent, or the z in the zyder of Somerset. The dignity of Wiltshire eschews such quaint or sombre idiosyncrasies. Yet our geography is almost dramatic. It con-



RAMSBURY MANOR, AN IDEAL ENGLISH COUNTRY HOUSE



MOMPESON HOUSE, SALISBURY

sists of the downs, which traverse the tall upright county in lateral stripes, and of the vales between them. In the vales are rivers, celebrated by Camden for their eels and crayfish, but now preserved for trout alone; since the true English preference for unpalatable food is a marked feature of the county, and has long disdained anything in the nature of a local delicacy. Beside the rivers, golden flags and kingcups flower in the marshes, and meadowsweet scents the summer air. The villages straggle in quick succession along the roads. Elms rear their lumpish forms from the unkempt hedges. The fields are diverse and irregular, interspersed with large coverts and patches of gorse, the remains of old commons. An implicit harmony pervades the landscape of the vales, lethargic, undistinguished. But always, on the horizon, stand the ramparts of another world, the grass uplands, where prehistoric man dug his defences and built his temples, where the bustards stalked in the wake of the escaping Charles, and where now, in certain restricted areas, tank and racehorse take their nursery exercise before emerging to play their part in modern civilisation. Here, indeed, the fine wind-blown grass has its roots in immemorial history.



Copyright.

IN SALISBURY CLOSE

"COUNTRY LIFE."



Copyright.

THE "DAMES HOSPITAL" IN THE CLOSE "COUNTRY LIFE."



Parrett

Copyright

"THAT HUGE DUMB HEAP THAT CANNOT TELL US HOW, NOR WHAT, NOR WHENCE IT CAME . . ."

Generations unchronicled have sought its natural advantages. Even the mechanical age is dependent on its favours to rehearse the battles of the future. When a tank collides with the barrow of a bronze-age warrior, the philosopher may reflect, for a change, on the immutability of human affairs. Then, one day, the tank itself will grow obsolete, and the downs be restored, for another space, to their mediæval peace. The Wiltshire scene has its own drama. But it is drama on a grand scale, comprising centuries as well as acres, which maintains a reserved silence towards the casual passer-by.

Among these rolling prairies, and atop the grass fortifications that rise like the works of some giant *Vauban* from the chequered culture of each vale, lurks the genius of the county, rejoicing in its nearness to the open sky and welcoming kindred souls. "These romancy plaines and boscages," says John Aubrey, "did no doubt conduce to the hightening of Sir Philip Sydney's phansie. He lived much in these parts, and his most masterly touches of his pastorals he wrote here upon the spott, where they were conceived. (Fortunately, he called the spott Arcadia instead of Wiltshire.) 'Twas about these purlieus that the muses were wont to appeare to Sir Philip Sidney, and where he wrote down their dictates in his table book, though on horseback." To this last sentence Aubrey appends a footnote: "I remember some old relations of mine and other old men hereabout that have seen Sir Philip doe thus." And no wonder. Of all those unrecorded intimacies and enjoyments which have gradually, year by year, built my home into the deeper consciousness, none has remained more vivid than the days spent on horseback. I recall one occasion when a fox made a four-mile point from Huish Hill to St. Anne's Hill, and we chased after it along the line of the Wansdyke.

Sheer below, the Pewsey vale stretched away like another land, a sea of fields and hedges, till the trees were merged in a blue distance, and a faint line of hills proclaimed the edge of Salisbury Plain. The sun was shining, the sky turquoise. Across it moved an army of white clouds, and their shadows followed on the plain beneath. A tiny train came slowly into view, trailing a plume of white smoke half a mile in its wake. Its whistle echoed. Then we were alone again with the thud of hoofs on turf, the rustle of wind in the ears, and the cry of the hounds ahead. There was no



W. Cadby

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WIN GREEN, THE HIGHEST POINT IN WILTSHIRE, AT THE SOUTH-WEST CORNER OF THE COUNTY



Photochrome

IN SAUNTON FOREST

Copyright

check, no wire. At last, in sight of Devizes, where the ridge ends, the fox found an earth. We dismounted and stood gazing at the view in a glow of content and triumph, like persons from an aeroplane. I had no table book. But the memory has not failed.

Such personal experiences can mean little to him who lives elsewhere. Yet it is difficult to write of one's home objectively, as though it were Italy or the Balearic Islands. Certainly, Wiltshire possesses monuments for the entertainment of enquiring visitors. Stonehenge, though imprisoned by a kiosk and two asphalt roads, can still convey an overpowering mystery in the dusk of a winter's evening. And there is the great circle of stones at Avebury, which Aubrey discovered by chance during a hunt and which now encloses a whole village. While Silbury Hill, near by, has been acclaimed as the largest artificial mound in Europe. Of famous houses there are many,



AVEBURY



A WILTSHIRE DEWPOND

from such romantic rambling piles as Lacock and Littlecote to the greater formality of Ramsbury and the Jones' front at Wilton. Charles II said that the Double Cube at Wilton, which lies behind this front, was the best proportioned room he knew; and I will say the same. It contains, in any case, the finest Van Dyck ever painted. There is no close like Salisbury's, where the cathedral, rising like a silver alp direct from its velvet lawn, stands attended by some of England's loveliest smaller houses. There is no forest like Savernake, descended by inheritance to its present owner from before the Conquest, where the red deer still roar in the autumn and the grand beech aisles make their way among the native oaks. Even the villages of the downs, fitted into hollows where the sweeping lines of the landscape converge on their roofs and trees, have an air of innate composition. But no catalogue of beauties can evoke for the reader what I wish to tell him. The attempt must be abandoned. When a man is abroad, bewildered by the pageant of strange countries, he will draw a new strength from the recollection of his home. For a home transmits the tradition which is the strength of the individual and of the race. If the home in question happen to be in Wiltshire, the tradition will be as old, and the strength as fresh, as any that England can give.

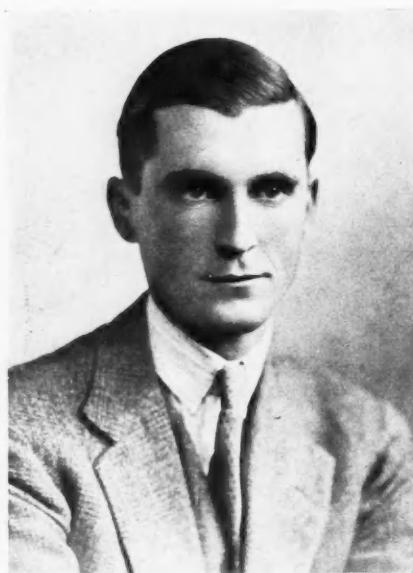


THE CHERHILL WHITE HORSE, NEAR CALNE

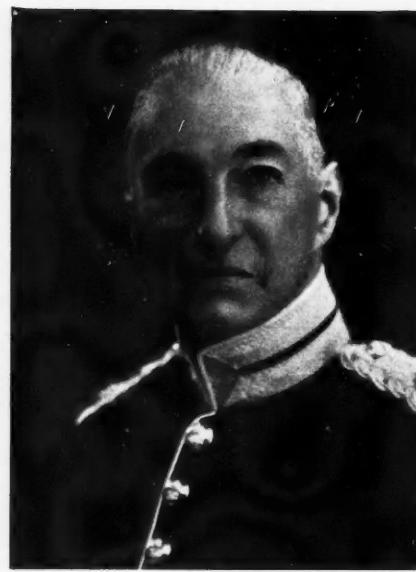


AT COOMBE BISSETT

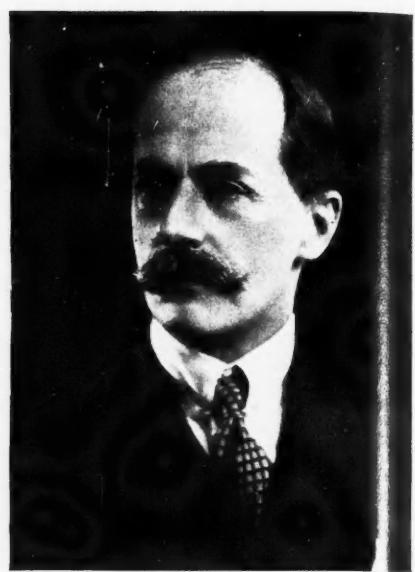
WILTSHIRE WORTHIES



LORD WEYMOUTH, M.P.
Son and heir of the Marquess of Bath



SIR ERNEST WILLS, Bt.
Lord Lieutenant of Wiltshire



LORD LANSDOWNE
Soldier and author



LT. COL. W. J. YORKE SCARLETT
Joint-Master of the Tedworth Woodland



MISS EDITH OLIVIER
The distinguished Wiltshire novelist



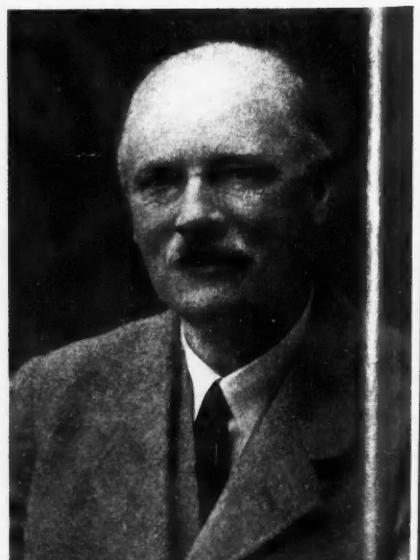
MR. JOHN G. MORRISON
Joint-Master of the South and West Wilt.



THE EARL OF RADNOR
A noted agriculturist



DR. ST. CLAIR DONALDSON
Bishop of Salisbury since 1921



Lt. COL. W. CORY HEWARD BELL, D.S.O.
High Sheriff of Wiltshire in 1932

FLOWER PIECE

The Garden Book of Sir Thomas Hanmer. With an Introduction by Eleanour Sinclair Rohde. (Gerald Howe, limited edition, 21s.)

THE discovery of a hitherto unpublished seventeenth century book on gardens, of a completeness for it to be set, not unworthily, beside Parkinson and Gerard, Markham and Evelyn, is an event to throw the gardener's heart in a flutter. Like Miss Ivy Elstob, when she first turned the neat MS. pages last year in a London bookseller's, he may well suspect a catch somewhere. But no. The MS. was obviously intended for publication, and, on some separate sheets that Miss Rohde now re-unites to it again, Sir Thomas had written an Introduction. The reason for his never having published his book would appear to be that John Rea, the author of "Flora, Ceres and Pomona" (published in 1665), disclosed his greater project to him, whereupon Sir Thomas put his notes at Rea's disposal. Rea's book is dedicated to Hanmer, and was admittedly "inspired" by his "incomparable" garden at Bettisfield. Sir Thomas would then have felt that his own little book, though the fruit of many years' enthusiasm, was of too slight a nature to be worth publication. But it is its very conciseness that makes it of such remarkable interest now.

For Hanmer's book, so far from aiming at completeness, was intended as a "handy guide" to contemporary amateurs, omitting what was familiar or encyclopædic, but describing just what we of to-day most want to know about gardens of that time: which were the favourite flowers, how they were planted, what they looked like, and what people thought about them.

Sir Thomas Hanmer, coming of an ancient Shropshire family, had taken some part in the Civil Wars on the King's side, but seems early to have withdrawn from active participation. After 1644 he settled down in enforced leisure and took up gardening, after having travelled for some time abroad. By the end of the Commonwealth he was on sufficiently friendly terms to be sending tulips to Lambert, the Parliamentary general, and so experienced a gardener that both Rea and Evelyn looked up to him. Indeed, his letters to Evelyn, sending him notes and plants, are, as Miss Rohde indicates, "those of a kindly elderly expert to a young enthusiast."

The book consists of a *catalogue raisonné* of the plants then popular with gardeners, with hints on their cultivation, and concludes with a Garden Calendar which, written in 1653, thus antedates Evelyn's similar work, hitherto regarded as the earliest calendar in English.

In his introductory remarks, Sir Thomas gives a picture of the state of gardening in England under Cromwell:

The rich among us are not satisfied with good houses and parks, or handsome avenues and issues to and from their dwellings, their ambitions and curiosity extend also to very costly embellishments of their gardens, orchards, and walks, and some spare no charge, amongst other things, in procuring the rarest flowers and plants to set them forth withal. Yet . . . few know how to choose well their materials, or to order and dispose of them, and so are at much charge in vain, their gardeners being also very inexpert and dull.

He goes on to describe the recent change in the lay-out of gardens, no longer with the borders "hedged about with privet or rosemary," but "all is now commonly near the house laid open and exposed to the sight of the rooms, and the knot and borders are upheld only with very low coloured boards or stone." Beyond the parterres come the flower borders, "on the outside beautified with vases or dwarf cypresses"; and beyond them, again, the "great grounds" laid out as labyrinths or alleys.

Elsewhere he describes in detail the planting of his own beds, for example:

The border under the south wall in the Great Garden is full of good anemones, and near the musk rose are two roots of the daffodil of Constantinople from Rea and a martagon pomponium.

Precedence, as might be expected at that date, was given, in both garden and book, to tulips—"the Queen of Bulbous plants." One of the finest of the fashionable striped tulips was named in his honour Agate Hanmer. But besides them were narcissi, hyacinths, lilies, and particularly anemones, which were nearly as popular then as tulips. The "carpet gardening" of the period, evolved to meet the fashion for bulbs, resulted in such a book as Hanmer's giving them precedence.

His herbaceous list comprises most of the old favourites. There were gillyflowers first and foremost; nigella, Campanula persicifolia, cistus, aloe, snapdragons, polyanthas, everlasting, sweet williams, and columbines, to instance the most prominent. But there is only single lupin—the old blue type. Delphiniums, though numerous, seem to have been treated as annuals. He enumerates a good many roses, but fewer than the present collector of the "old" roses might expect. Of the available flowering shrubs the lilacs (or "lelots") and "syringas" must have been the showiest.

Every section of the little book is enthralling, but it is a deficiency that no notes are provided which would elucidate the many obscurities for all but the expert in the history of horticulture. Nomenclature has been revolutionised since the seventeenth century, and it is sometimes difficult to identify some of the more forgotten species.

Not the least interesting aspect of Sir Thomas's flowers is their colour. Outside the field of bulbs, the hybridiser had not got to work, and many of the bright colours of the modern garden were absent. Three colours are preponderatingly on his lips: "watchet"—the blue of the sky—"murrey," and "gridelein" (*gris de lin*, satiny grey pink).

They remind us how true the delicately sad colours of the old flower paintings were to the garden colour schemes of the time.

CHRISTOPHER HUSSEY.

Thirty-five Years, 1874-1909, by Henry Spenser Wilkinson. (Constable, 16s.)

THERE are many men who seem to have an enormous influence on their generation and times who really have none at all. They are the foam on the surface of the water that shows how the wind is blowing or the tide is set. Others, some of them well known to the world, some comparatively unknown, are able to exert a guiding influence on affairs of which the average man hardly dreams. Mr. Spenser Wilkinson has been closely associated with at least two such men—Sir Charles Dilke and Lord Milner—and he himself has shared in no small measure the privilege both as a brilliant journalist, a sound thinker, and as the friend and counsellor of many prominent men in other walks of life, of influencing affairs entirely without the knowledge of the general public. There is, unfortunately, no space here to explore his triumphs of twenty years ago as a journalist, as war correspondent, and chief leader-writer on the "Morning Post" in its classic period, or also as a dramatic critic. He was the first Chichele Professor of Military History at Oxford, and from his undergraduate days, when he instituted *Kriegspiel* at Oxford until the time of the Great War he has never ceased to think and to write about war—not from any jingo point of view, but as a calm, dispassionate student of the methods of making war and fighting battles, and of the preparation and organisation of armies and fleets. A list of his published works shows what his activities have been, and the account which he has given us at the age of eighty of his life as a journalist up to the time of his appointment to Oxford will be full of interest not only to the student of affairs, but to all those who would make the acquaintance of a first-rate mind. It will not be long, it is to be hoped, before Professor Wilkinson gives us a second volume of his reminiscences.

Animal War Heroes, by Peter Shaw Baker. (A. and C. Black, 5s.) OF the making of War books there is truly no end, but there must always be room for one such as this in which are told quite simply, and with all available documentation, the stories of a number of the furred and feathered creatures which saw service in the Great War. "The Dog That Saved Verdun" is, perhaps, the most dramatic story in the book; the picture it evokes of Satan, wounded, but still struggling on on three legs, with his panniers containing carrier pigeons, is unforgettable. And one of those two pigeons got through to the outer world with a message, giving the position of the German battery that was making it impossible to hold Verdun, and so the town was saved. Then there is the story of the charger Charlie, welcomed home and, what is more, *expected* by his pony companion whom he had not seen for four years. Altogether the book is full of things to enchant the animal lover to laughter—and tears—and to evoke in most readers a little gratification at the honourable position that our nation, whatever its failures in other respects, can claim with regard to justice and kindness to animals.

Gosta Berling's Saga, by Selma Lagerlöf. (Cape, 8s. 6d.) *Gosta Berling's Saga* is Selma Lagerlöf's earliest work, the book accomplished at the end of those first thirty years of life that, for an artist, may be so difficult in their consciousness of latent power, and the bitterness of having nothing tangible, as yet, to show for that consciousness. We are told that, in Sweden, this book is considered to be her best; and we can well believe it. For a country's soul is in its folktales, and this saga, even in translation, holds the spirit of folklore. The tales are loosely strung around the life and personality of Gosta Berling, an unfrocked priest who is ever his own worst enemy. He joins a group of "Cavaliers," blue-blooded derelicts who are hospitably housed by a great lady of the country district; the tales concern one year during which the lady was exiled and the Cavaliers wasted her substance and demoralised the sober countryside. The monotony and hardship of life in the iron North is like the parchment on which the tales, with their gleam of colour and romance, are printed. Peasant piety and poetry are represented by many touches, as when the country-folks say, of a half-witted girl, that "her understanding is with God." And peasant wit is not absent either, as in the tale of the village organist who, owning two cows, named them "Eleven" and "Twelve," in order to "sound grand when he talked of them." The author, too, has poured into the book her own philosophy and poetry, twin growths of the experience that "Life and nature are hard. They bring forth courage and joy as a counterweight against their own hardness, or no one could endure them." To read this book is to learn something of the spirit of a brave and upright people which endures through the ages.

V. H. F.

A SELECTION FOR THE LIBRARY LIST.
ROBERT SMITH SURTEES, by F. Watson (Harrap, 12s. 6d.); HUNTER'S MOON, by Major Leonard Handley (Macmillan, 15s.); GOLFING MEMORIES AND METHODS, by Joyce Wethered (Hutchinson, 12s. 6d.). Fiction: GOSTA BERLING'S SAGA, by Selma Lagerlöf (Cape, 8s. 6d.); THE LAME DOG, by H. R. Mottram (Chatto and Windus, 7s. 6d.).

Clubs, 1933. (Spottiswoode, Ballantyne and Co., 7s. 6d.)—This most elegant of reference books, unique in its own field, gives particulars of 3,957 English clubs, of which no fewer than 1,754 are golf clubs, including 253 devoted to ladies' golf.

TOWARDS AN AGRICULTURAL POLICY

Edited by Christopher Turnor and F. J. Prewett

PART IV., SECTION 2

THE POULTRY INDUSTRY, by SIR EDWARD BROWN, LL.D., F.L.S.

Sir Edward Brown, the veteran pioneer of development in poultry farming, reviews the development and present position of poultry keeping in this country. The specialist poultry farmer has come into prominence, but still the general farmer is estimated to produce 85 per cent. of the total farm output, although, allowing for exceptions, he is less efficient than the specialist. The farmer's opportunity is obvious, particularly as he has many advantages over the specialist. As Sir Edward Brown points out, it is a matter of getting the farmer to look at poultry as he looks at his crops or his cattle, as a serious department of his farm

THE relative growth of egg and poultry production during the last half-century in almost all countries of the world has exceeded that of nearly all branches of agriculture. In Great Britain such increase was, as it still is, inadequate to meet a greatly increased consumption. Consequently overseas supplies were necessary to provide for the requirements of our growing population, more especially in England and Wales and southern Scotland. The Census of 1881 recorded 25,974,439 human inhabitants; that of 1931, 39,947,931, an increase in the fifty years of 13,973,492, or 53.8 per cent. This fact is important in estimating the volume of home production, imports and total consumption. It also explains in part the relative increase of total values. In 1880 eggs in shell imported numbered 747 millions, greater than in 1870 by 73.3 per cent. In 1880 poultry and game imported were valued at £421,655, and poultry alone in 1932 at £2,408,207. Egg imports from 1880 to 1932 had advanced in volume by 220.9 per cent., and poultry by 994.6 per cent. Such imports, however, for 1932 include supplies from the Irish Free State which, in the earlier year and until 1923, were regarded as of home production. They do not embody dried and liquid eggs, the totals of which in 1932 were 772,516 cwt., valued at £2,619,203. Until the War period these were so small as not to be separately enumerated. During the nine years from 1924 to 1932 the total import values of eggs in shell, eggs not in shell, and poultry, after deduction of re-exports, were £188,152,815. During 1932 there was a decrease in imports as compared with 1931 by £5,585,427, or 28.3 per cent. That may be attributed to decreased consumption as a result of high taxation, unemployment and lower purchasing power; but increased home production must be reckoned with.

The first official Census of Poultry was taken in 1884 and repeated the following year, when it was discontinued until the Production Census of 1908. That and all taken subsequently have been restricted to holdings of an acre and upwards. It is generally admitted that the 1884 and 1885 figures were unreliable, to what extent it is impossible to say. There was no discrimination then made between adult and young stock. In the following table, therefore, all ages are included.

TOTAL POULTRY ON AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS IN ENGLAND AND WALES, 1884, 1908 AND 1932.

| | 1884 | 1908 | 1932 | 1932 over 1884 | 1932 over 1908 | Inc. or dec. per cent. |
|------------|------------|------------|------------|----------------|----------------|------------------------|
| Fowls .. | 10,361,468 | 28,249,000 | 57,734,000 | 457 inc. | 104.3 inc. | |
| Ducks .. | 2,104,518 | 2,669,000 | 2,632,000 | 25 inc. | 1.0 dec. | |
| Geese .. | 951,715 | 686,000 | 573,000 | 39.8 dec. | 16.5 dec. | |
| Turkeys .. | 436,219 | 628,000 | 553,000 | 26.7 inc. | 11.9 dec. | |

The advance made has been exclusively in fowls. Ducks, geese and turkeys were in 1932 fewer than in 1908, and ducks and turkeys more than in 1884. One further point is important

and explains the adoption of more concentrative methods in modern poultry husbandry, namely, that from 1884 to 1932 the area of cultivated land in England and Wales had decreased by 2,455,000 acres, or 8.8 per cent.

From the mid-decades of the nineteenth century great changes have taken place in the food generally consumed. Concentration of population in urban areas, improved standards of life, and better environmental conditions have led to an ever increasing demand for finer foods, greater in palatability and more easily digested. Formerly eggs and poultry were seasonal in supply, usually unreliable. Winter prices were too high for the majority of householders. Spring prices of eggs were too low to make production profitable. Hence poultry-keeping, save as a hobby or a side line, was non-economic. Table poultry was different. It was a luxury trade, as it still is in several directions. Such was not, however, the case in some other countries, notably France and Belgium, and to a lesser extent in some parts of Germany and Austro-Hungary. Britshers have always been small eaters of poultry.

Three important factors have powerfully contributed to the arousing of attention to the possibilities of economic production and have led to an increase of home supplies. Imports of eggs and poultry, and an improvement of quality in the native supplies by better methods of production have led to a considerable advance in prices until the last two years, during which the poultry industry has shared in the general fall of commodity values. For some years the French supplies, chiefly from Normandy and the Pas de Calais, dominated our markets. Later, Denmark entered into the egg trade, and still further improved the standards of quality, followed by Ireland—in quantity, at any rate—and the Netherlands. An awakening realisation of the fact that breeding for exhibition, which supervened upon the prohibition of cock-fighting nearly ninety years ago, had popularised poultry-breeding, stimulated by the introduction of new races, some of which proved to be highly productive. The inauguration of laying trials prior to the end of last century gave an enormous impetus to breeding and production, chiefly on the part of smaller occupiers, either as an entire or partial, though modest, means of livelihood. That was mainly in the residential and industrial districts, of which those in the home counties, Lancashire and the West Riding of Yorkshire are leading examples. These districts have led the way, primarily by reason of the vast populations within easy reach or contiguous thereto.

The development of poultry farming as we know it to-day has taken place in this country almost entirely during the past fifty years.

As a result of increasing demand and higher prices, selective breeding to secure greater individual production, and improved methods of housing, rearing, feeding, etc., have been adopted, with remarkable results. Prolific layers have always been known,



THE FOLDING SYSTEM FOR POULTRY, ON MR. HOSIER'S FARM AT WEXCOMBE
The pens are moved every day. The strips of manured ground are very evident

as records indicate. But these were comparatively few in number. We are not now concerned with problems that have arisen as a consequence of abnormal methods, and the abuse rather than the use of the hen by excessive individual production. That the stocks of the country are much superior to what was the case thirty years ago is evident. Also that the average output of eggs is much greater, probably by 50 per cent.

As a consequence there has been a great advance of commercial poultry husbandry, operated on specialist and more concentrated lines. For more than sixty years what are known as poultry breeding farms have been profitable in the extreme, in some cases yielding fame and fortune. At first the object was sale of exhibition stock or eggs for hatching. By 1901 some of these were entirely concerned with productive stock. The number rapidly increased until the Great War. Following upon the Armistice, the number of poultry farms concerned only with production of eggs for market rapidly increased where the conditions of outlet for supplies were favourable, from the fact that marketing is simple and the costs involved are low. In Lancashire, where these conditions prevail, and small holdings are more numerous than in any other county, the average number of adult fowls and ducks per 100 acres of cultivated land was 453, as against 105.7 in the

owing to lessened cost for feed, can avoid the high charges for equipment necessary on specialised poultry farms. The land would be supplied with fresh manure, which is superior to artificial fertilisers; could profitably employ more labour, prevent disease, make the business a success, and supply a quality of produce commanding the highest prices.

THE POULTRY FOLDING SYSTEM

BY A. J. HOSIER

OME three or four years ago it occurred to me that a large poultry stock, properly organised, would be a most valuable asset in conjunction with my herds of outdoor milking cows on my farm on the Wiltshire downs at Wexcombe, Marlborough. I made enquiries, visited a number of poultry farms, and formed the conclusion that poultry were paying well, but that, generally speaking, insufficient use was made by the large mixed farmer of the valuable manure left by the hens.

With the object of taking full advantage of the poultry droppings I designed an exceedingly mobile house and run, and experimented for two years with the folding system. My pen is so fashioned that it is perfectly safe to use in the same field with cows without protection of any sort. This is of great benefit in that the cattle control the grass, and I am, consequently, saved the expense and inconvenience of cutting in order to keep the grass short enough for the poultry. The sleeping-house is provided with slats just sufficiently wide apart as to render cleaning out unnecessary. I constructed and patented nest trays upon which the birds lay their eggs without hay, straw or litter of any description, so that I am not troubled with fleas, lice, red mite or any other vermin in my birds, and the eggs are kept clean and protected from egg-eaters. As the birds are never allowed outside their runs, I am saved the trouble and expense of shutting-up at night and suffer no loss from foxes. I thought out and patented a moving-lever by means of which the complete house and run can be easily and quickly moved every day on to clean ground by a man or lad without any help. It is astonishing how quickly the pens can be moved, and now that I have approximately 4,000 laying hens, it seems incredible that the 160 pens can be comfortably moved in three hours with so little labour; but such is, nevertheless, the case.

A surprising feature of the folding system is the fact that, although it involves the use of a large number of small houses and runs, less labour is required than for either of the other systems. In my own case one man and a boy are all that are required to carry out all the routine work for the complete unit of 4,000 hens, and this in spite of the fact that each of the 160 pens is moved every day. By routine work I mean feeding, watering, egg-collecting and recording, and the preparation of foodstuffs. Extra labour is provided for seasonal jobs, such as culling, creosoting pens, etc.

It is, I imagine, almost impossible to evolve a healthier method of keeping hens than on the folding system. When birds are kept in small units of twenty-five and never allowed to intermingle, it is difficult to see how infectious disease can be spread. But when it is further taken into consideration that they are moved every day on to clean ground and—given sufficient acreage, as in my case—not likely to travel over the same ground for three or four years, it is difficult to see why or how they should ever get disease.

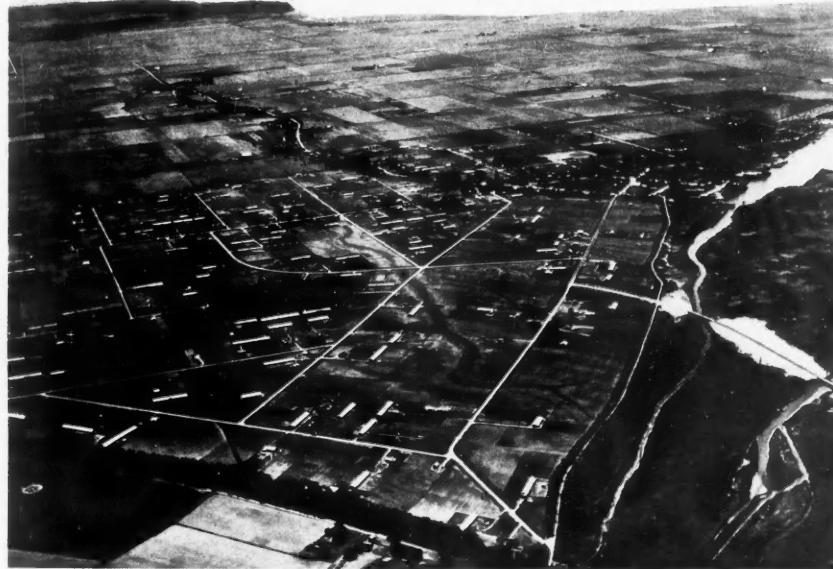
With the national financial crisis of September, 1931, it became clear that the production of foodstuffs must be encouraged in England in order to adjust the adverse trade balance. It was at this time that I launched out from my small experimental unit to my present one and, although the market price of eggs has continually fallen since that time, I am more than ever convinced that, due to Government action and other factors, the turn in the tide is not far off and that mixed farmers who are good organisers and can take advantage of the manorial value will shortly have reason to bless the fact that they turned their attention to poultry.

EDITORIAL NOTE

Mr. Hosier's letter describes what a large farmer is doing with poultry as a side line to dairying; but a side line so important that its returns per unit of 4,000 birds begin to rival the corresponding unit in his organisation of sixty-seven cows.

In Denmark, for years past, egg production has been carried on as a side line to their dairy farms; there are few specialised poultry farms in that country.

There is another part that poultry keeping can play, and that is as a main product on the small holding. In Germany



AERIAL VIEW OF THE DELTA MANOR POULTRY FARM, BRITISH COLUMBIA

whole of England and Wales, in spite of the fact that its stocks of adult poultry are only 0.63 per unit of human population. Other counties with good averages are: West Riding of Yorkshire, 152.6; Chester, 145.3; East Sussex, 140; Isle of Wight, 138; Essex, 128.6; Cornwall, 127.6; Kent, 124.9; East Suffolk, 121.8; Hampshire, 121.3; Derby, 118.4; Holland, Lincs, 118; Worcester, 117; and Flint, Wales, 104.7.

The great majority of specialist egg farms are modest in area of land available. In many instances as many as 100 to 150 birds per acre are kept. Profits, where the stock and management are satisfactory, in spite of declining prices in 1931 and 1932, have been in many cases fairly good. As conditions become normal, it can be anticipated that such profits will improve. Meantime, the need is to proceed with caution and keep down the costs as far as is consistent with efficiency. Poultry farming is a complex pursuit. Experience is essential. That is frequently lacking on the part of novices. Management and marketing determine success or failure, as in every phase of human endeavour.

We have now arrived at a stage where the outlook for specialised egg and poultry production is demanding careful consideration. In many instances a drastic revision of methods is imperative. Excessive average production in many instances is breaking down the vigour of the stock, especially when combined with the use of immature, even inbred birds. Denial of natural conditions, restriction to small runs, overcrowding in houses and on the ground, are contributing to the same end, as is feeding on artificial foods which are lacking in essential elements, and general concentration. Nature is imperatively calling a halt. Only in that way will disease and excessive mortality be overcome.

During recent years there has been a considerable increase of farm poultry, which has proved to be the most profitable branch of livestock. But for want of enterprise by farmers, imports would not have assumed so great a part of our market supplies. The capacity of the country, however, is at least three-fold the present production, and without interference with or displacement of other crops. Upon farmers, inclusive of small-holders, is the main responsibility for future development. They can provide the birds with natural conditions, can produce more cheaply

a good number of holders are making quite a fair living off $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres: a little intensive market gardening, a sow or two, and poultry.

Perhaps the most interesting poultry development is the Delta Manor system in British Columbia. It has been working for some years with success, and has so far withstood the agricultural crisis better than any other branch of husbandry. Briefly the system is a happy combination of large and small poultry production. There is a central farm of some 200 or 300 acres, surrounded by one hundred holdings of 2 acres each: total area, 500 acres. On the central farm all the more difficult and more skilled work is done: for instance, all incubating, grading and packing of eggs, and the finishing off of table birds. One or more experts reside on the central farm, and their advice is always available for the small-holders. Day-old chicks are given to the small-holders, who, when established, have from 500 to 1,000 laying birds upon their holdings. They send all their eggs to

the central farm, and thereby are relieved of all trouble of finding a market. In addition the central farm provides a considerable amount of work for the surrounding holders who work at current wages for certain definite periods in rotation. The 2-acre holdings are cropped as market gardens, and many produce soft fruits. Success has been due to division of labour, which ultimately results in the prosperity of the community.

This system has succeeded well in British Columbia and on the Pacific slopes of the United States, in spite of the high cost of land, which is about £120 per acre. Each holding has its house and poultry equipment. This system merits careful consideration since it might well prove a valuable method of developing small holdings in this country. If it has answered in British Columbia on land so highly priced, and where the market is by no means so good as it is in this country, it should answer still better here on some of our light sandy soils that could be bought for a tenth of the price paid by the Delta Manor Company.

THE WISDOM OF MISS WETHERED

By BERNARD DARWIN

HERE was once, as I am told, an Oxford undergraduate who, having obtained a first in his schools, climbed on to the top of a cupola which looks upon the High Street and there gave a public demonstration of his delight. The Head of his College came out in great indignation and bade him instantly descend, whereupon the young gentleman, gazing down from his pinnacle, remarked: "You silly old fool! You don't know what it feels like. You only got a second." Most of us golfers are like the miserable victim of that unanswerable thrust. We have only got a second—or third or fourth—at golf: we do not know what a first feels like. On the other hand, nobody in the world can know the sensation better than Miss Wethered, with her record of four Ladies' Open Championships and five English ones, a record that might have been almost infinitely increased if she had had a mind to it. She has now written a book (*Golfing Memories and Methods*, by Joyce Wethered. Illustrated. Hutchinson, 12s. 6d.) in which she tells us very modestly and pleasantly both what it feels like to win championships and how we ought to set about doing it.

There are two sorts of books about golf—the technical and instructive: the light and airy and reminiscent. It is my experience—though, of course, I speak from a much humbler position than Miss Wethered's—that it is only the first sort of book that golfers will buy. They will not spend their money unless they see a prospect of learning something which will enable them to get that money back and more also in the shape of half-crowns won from the less learned. Therefore, the illustrious authoress has been wise in giving us methods as well as memories on this occasion. For myself, I like memories best, since I have grown a little cynical about methods (no doubt a case of sour grapes), but I fancy it is the technical part of the book that will attract most readers.

I have arrived at a stage at which I read many technical golfing books with some interest, indeed, but without attempting to unsettle my own game by trying to follow the advice laid down in them. Therefore I am really paying Miss Wethered the best compliment I can in saying that I could not read her book in that detached and tranquil frame of mind. On the contrary, I found myself periodically leaping from my chair to seize a poker or other available instrument for purposes of trial; and, at least on one occasion, I went so far as to rush to another room, in which there was a mirror, in order to observe my own attitudes.

Clearly it is not possible here even to summarise all Miss Wethered's advice; for she has thought out every part of the game, and to a natural genius for hitting a ball has added much knowledge, the fruit of experiment and observation. One department of the game must be chosen by a reviewer, and I shall choose primarily her remarks on putting. I think I discovered in them an allusion to a rare putting ailment of my own (she calls it an "agonising habit"), though I am mercifully disguised as "one player." That gave me a thrill, but no cure for the habit is suggested, and no doubt it is incurable save by churchyard mould. That is but a personal interest: the general interest of what Miss Wethered says about putting is that she takes exactly the opposite view to nearly all the pundits. The books have always told us to use our wrists; Miss Wethered—and I humbly believe her to be right—thinks that average golfers, who do not belong to the small class of "putting geniuses," will do better if they "try keeping the wrists stiff and do not use them in making the stroke." In saying this, Miss Wethered is, as she admits, preaching what she does not practise. As those who have watched her know, there is a quite perceptible though not very free movement of the wrist. To me she always

seems, on the green, to be playing something of a "push shot" in miniature with her putting cleek, and she gets a wrist movement into it at the last moment. However modest she is, she cannot honestly call herself a bad putter, and she does not; in fact, she has been, day in and day out, a highly efficient one. She does say, however, quite resolutely: "I have always been aware of the fact that my methods of swinging the club through the green have been superior to those on the green."

Her belief is, briefly, that, except for a supremely gifted natural putter, the wrists are, on any nerve-racking occasion, "the most likely offenders." Therefore the wrists should be given no chance of criminal conduct; "as the ball is addressed in the beginning, so the wrists remain until after the ball is struck." The position of the elbows, she thinks, probably does not matter; "the important point to remember is that the arms should swing freely from the shoulders without disturbing the body and without breaking the wrists." Miss Wethered says she knows several good players who, having been uncertain putters, made themselves into sound holers out by giving up wrist movement. She does not name them, but I fancy I could name one who influenced her, namely, her brother Roger, who undoubtedly became a much better putter than ever before—indeed, an extremely good one—after a single lecture from Mr. Francis Ouimet against the habit of "breaking" the wrist. Miss Wethered is not wholly in love with one modern doctrine which is preached in and out of season. "A fashion has sprung up of late," she says, "for cultivating with all shots a 'draw'—in what is known as the hitting-from-in-to-out method. This may be an excellent practice in a number of shots; but as a confirmed habit it is frequently as pernicious as a slice and infinitely most costly in the penalty it incurs." I like, too, her advice as to wind, that "your policy should be to do just what the wind is trying to prevent your doing." As regards a wind on to the back, the one most of us fear, she says: "The wind will be doing its best to persuade you to turn your shoulders too quickly and so make the club head swing out on the way down and therefore come across the ball. This will make a slice inevitable and it will at once be exaggerated by the force of the wind. I think a better idea under these conditions than to think of the shoulders is to concentrate on keeping the elbows close to the side in coming down and until the ball is reached."

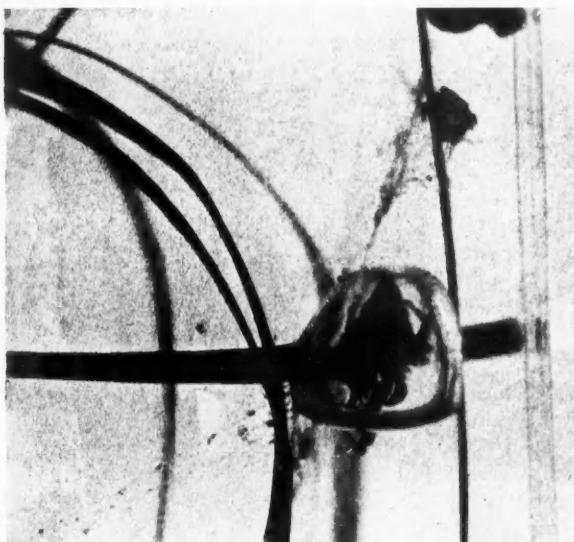
I must say one word or two about her more general views. She gives a gentle little snarl at the elaborate system of L.G.U. handicaps and the "officials laden with chains and measures sent down to determine by the exact number of yards the scratch score for any course." She hints that "there may be times when the cut and dried system of scoring cards is slightly oppressive." "Organisation," she says, permeates modern golf, and though, she adds, "I have tried to refrain from saying whether I prefer the new to the old," I think I can, like the boy in the song, "guess right the very first time."

There are some capital accounts of her great matches, especially with Miss Leitch and Miss Collett (now Mrs. Vare), and we can both suffer and rejoice with her as she waits for Miss Collett to attack that crucial putt on the twelfth green at St. Andrews which, if holed, would have meant six up to the American lady and might have altered history. Finally, those who know the spot will thank her for a most charming picture of a house in Ayrshire where there is a salmon river and also the most entrancing and difficult miniature golf course in the world. As old John Nyren quoted of his beloved Hambleton:

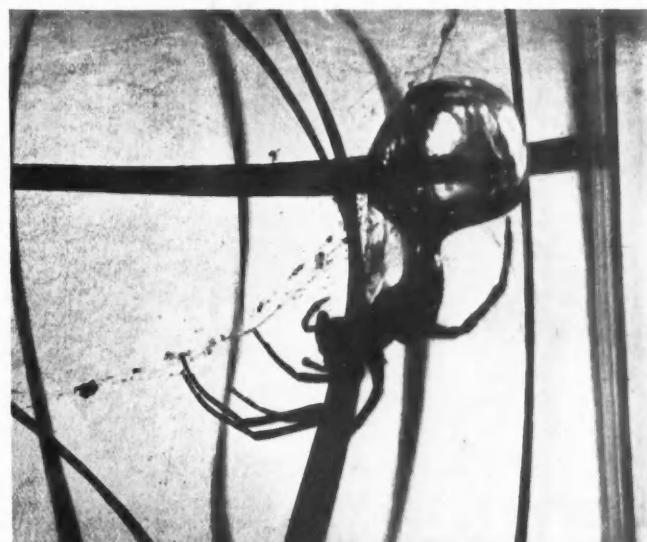
I have been there and still would go;
"Twas like a little Heaven below!

COBWEBS

By E. G. BOULENGER



A WATER SPIDER INSIDE ITS AIR-BELL



A WATER SPIDER LEAVING THE AIR-BELL

If spiders themselves are not generally popular, the annual spectacle of their dainty webs, festooning bush and hedgerow, must stir the wonder and admiration of the least imaginative. "Cobweb," indeed, covers a huge range of uses to which the spiders' seemingly inexhaustible silk supplies may be put, for the accepted "web" is but an isolated example.

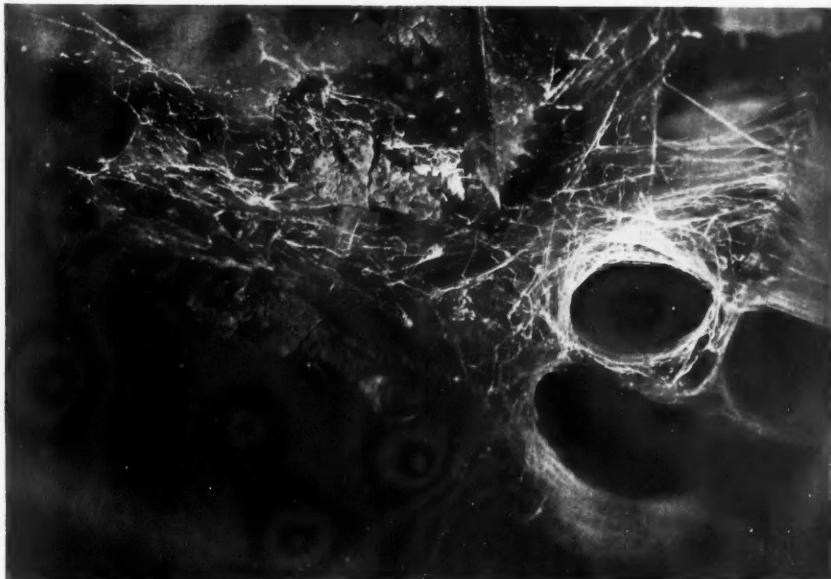
The abundant "cart-wheel" web of our gardens is spun by some 150 spinnerets carried at the hinder extremity of the spider's body. The radiating "guy ropes" are run up first, and the innumerable "whorls" added later, most of the workmanship being carried through under cover of night, though incidental repairs may be in progress at any time throughout the four and twenty hours. In late summer the garden spider is lean and lank; but autumn brings the bloated blue-bottle and full-bodied moth—and the spider soon gains an aldermanic rotundity with good living. The strength of these webs is truly surprising—often supporting masses of wind-blown leaves and heavy twigs, and resisting with varying success the devastating struggles of the bulkiest insects. The silk of some tropic species will even hold small birds. It has occasionally been used for weaving small articles of human attire, and is always employed by Japanese designers to strengthen their delicate stencil plates.

The web may not only be a snare, but an effective means of concealing its maker in sudden emergency. The approach of a wasp or bird causes the spider to vibrate his web so violently as to become invisible. Despite its nimble limbs and poison fangs, the spider suffers from a host of foes, not least of which are certain ichneumon flies that lay their own ova among the spider's egg masses. The fly's larvae emerge before the infant spiders have a chance to hatch, and devour the entire brood,

with none to hinder them. There are endless variants on the generally accepted "web." Many spiders build funnel-shaped webs—ensconced in bushes or convenient corners of a human habitation. The common house spider builds a funnel-shaped web, and may be seen working to advantage if incarcerated in an uncovered jam-jar. It will soon fill the jar with its untidy house, and, if kept well supplied with flies, remain there quite contentedly until the autumnal migratory instinct prompts it to seek new quarters.

The common—if somewhat local—water spider anticipated the diving bell and "bathysphere." It opens a silken envelope among submerged water plants, and inflates the nest with air—making numerous trips to the surface, and returning with an air bubble attached to the tip of its abdomen, where it is held secure by crossing the hindmost pair of legs. The bell is constructed so that its mouth points downwards, and when the chamber is filled with air the female deposits therein her eggs. Should the air of the nursery become foul, some of it is released by lifting one edge of the bell mouth, and a fresh supply of bubbles substituted.

Like most spiders, the female is prone to turn cannibal when her diminutive mate's services are no longer required. The entire surface of the water spider is covered with



F. W. Bond

WEB OF THE TUNNEL-BUILDING SPIDER

Copyright
WEB OF BIRD-EATING SPIDER



NEST OF THE "TRAP-DOOR" SPIDER

a dense pile, which retains numerous air bubbles, vital to the creature's well-being, for it is essentially an air breather. The young, for the first few days of their lives, however, have no such covering, and so must remain in the air-filled bell till fit to face the world.

A most remarkable variant on the "web" is developed by the so-called "trap-door" spiders, abundant in the southern United States and elsewhere. A long tubular shaft is sunk in the ground and lined with web material. The opening is furnished with a neatly hinged lid, its outer surface camouflaged to blend with the surrounding soil. On the least hint of danger, the spider claps-to the door and scuttles down the tube, its smoothly polished limbs and downy body offering the minimum



ORB WEB SPIDER—SIGNATURE SPIDER

of resistance to the silk-lined "man-hole." Often side tubes, shut off by separate trap-doors, open out from the main stronghold, thus offering a most effective "get away" in the event of an unexpected "raid." Some allied species dispense with the trap-door, and build a kind of pit-head shed—of twigs, leaves, etc.—at the mouth of the ingeniously constructed shaft.

The ever-ready silk may also be employed for a kind of balloon jumping—or parachuting. Many small spiders, common both at home and abroad, throw out strands of silk, which, being borne upon the wind, carry the spider through the air at a high speed. Usually the spider "takes off" from some convenient grass stem, and, when desirous of landing, simply "shortens sail" by hauling in the threads, when it sinks easily to earth.

CONTRACT BRIDGE

VI.—THE OPEN THREE-BID IN THE MAJOR SUITS

By CAPTAIN LINDSAY MUNDY

CAREFUL students of my dissertations on opening bids of One and Two of a suit will probably have noticed that some differentiation is made between the major and minor suits, where the One-bids are concerned, in that those bids can be made on four-card suits quite freely in the minors, but only in exceptional circumstances in the majors; while in the matter of Two-bids, there is absolutely no difference made between majors and the minor suit of Diamonds—the Two-bid in Clubs being reserved for conventional use—unless the fact that the cheapest suit is always bid first on a hand containing three strong four-card suits is included under that heading.

Is any distinction made between major and minor suits in the opening Three-bid?

Yes. A very much greater distinction, indeed, than in the case of One-bids. The reason for this is that a Three-bid in a major suit is a one-short-of-game bid, while it is not so in a minor suit. Consequently Three-bids have an entirely different meaning according to whether they are in major or minor suits; a one-short-of-game bid in a minor suit is, of course, a Four-bid, so that Four-bids in minor suits employ exactly the same principles as Three-bids in the majors, except, naturally, that they have to be one trick stronger.

What messages are conveyed by an opening Three-bid in a major suit?

The first, and most important, message which it conveys concerns the total strength of the hand. This conforms with the main principle of the Direct system, namely, to show the total strength of your hand, or as near it as possible, at your first bid. This message, then, is to the effect that your hand is stronger than would be shown by an initial Two-bid, but is not strong enough to make game without any assistance.

The second message is that your suit is strong enough to be practically independent of any trump support from your partner, so that you desire to play the hand in that suit, the natural corollary of which is the third message, that you want to be supported if your partner holds one trick.

What strength is required to make this Three-bid in a major suit?

Since the opener is asking to be raised to a contract of ten tricks if his partner has but one trick, it follows automatically that he should hold either nine tricks himself or, at any rate, eight tricks combined with possibilities of another. Now these possibilities are not capable of any very exact definition, but they should be estimated very liberally.

If the opener holds A Q x in a side suit, he reckons that as $1\frac{1}{2}$ tricks; but the possession of K x in the same suit by his partner, which is only half a trick, would turn that $1\frac{1}{2}$ tricks into 3 tricks instead of 2 only. Similarly A Q x is turned into $2\frac{1}{2}$ tricks if the partner holds the Knave 10, which he would not reckon as even half a trick. Thus A Q x is $1\frac{1}{2}$ tricks plus possibilities. Again K Q x becomes 3 tricks if the partner holds the Ace of that suit.

Consider a hand which consists of eight winning Spades and only small cards in the other suits. There are no "possibilities" here of its being worth any more than 8 tricks; if the partner holds one Ace only, then only 9 tricks can be made by the combined hands, so that to volunteer a bid of Four would be merely suicidal. Consequently the opener's bid should not be Three, but only Two. Half a trick in addition would automatically turn it into a Three-bid. Then consider this hand :

♦—K Q J 10 x x x ♠—x ♦—A x ♣—K Q x

Here we have 6 tricks in Spades, 1 in Diamonds and 1 in Clubs, also making 8 tricks; but the possession of K Q of Diamonds, or Ace of Clubs by the partner would ensure the game being made. Hence a bid of Three is essential, so as to invite him to raise on his holding of only one trick.

Is the "shutting-out" effect of a multiple bid not to have any influence?

No; for two reasons, the more important of which is that far greater benefit is obtained by giving your partner a true account of your total strength than by attempting to prevent your opponents from calling, and the less important one is that this effect will very constantly be obtained by a Two-bid, which not only requires the opponents to bid high if at all, but also warns them of the existence of a strong hand against them. This shutting-out effect is often a very useful servant, but it should not be allowed to usurp the position of a master. It should be kept rigidly to its own sphere, that of a by-product.

ETHEL WALKER

HERE is undoubtedly a certain amount of æsthetic pleasure to be gained from a painter's display of executive skill, from his power of overcoming difficulties of representation, sometimes, even, from his ability to create an illusion of reality. Too much has been made of this quality in the past, when painters were still feeling their way towards complete representation, and seldom went astray in matters of taste, because they had a sound traditional schooling in design, and limited materials at their disposal. Even to-day many great reputations rest mainly on technical accomplishment, on the ability to "finish." Orpen, for example, commands respect and admiration for his unerring power to bring out all the complexity of form, colour, texture and lighting more forcibly than most men see in real life. But that is not the end of art. It is only the means—or, rather, one of the means—which an artist, having the gift to see beauty and feel emotion more acutely than others, can use to express himself. And now that photography supplies the need of making records of the personalities and events of the day, real artists tend to use the purely representational method less than in the past, and they are appreciated more for their power of creating beauty and expressing emotion than for mere executive skill.

In the present generation of English painters none has such a radiantly beautiful sense of colour as Ethel Walker. It would be easy to find faults with her work, if it were judged from the point of view of representation. The most obvious criticism is that she leaves her pictures incompletely realised, producing an effect of vagueness. And the reply is: Where among the photographically accurate painters can such sparkle and colour be found? The two things are incompatible, and we are glad to forgo mere mechanical skill in copying natural details for the rare gift of inspired vision.

Miss Ethel Walker's present exhibition at the Lefèvre Galleries consists of some early *genre* subjects, portraits, seascapes, nudes, and flower-pieces. None of her beautiful decorations is shown, though among the drawings there is a small water-colour sketch for "Paris and the Goddesses." "The Yellow Dress" and "Before the Mirror" are relatively sombre in colour compared to her present work, and belong to the period when the leaders of English impressionism, Steer and Tonks, were painting figures in sunlit interiors, perhaps as a reaction against Whistler's grey and low-toned treatment of such themes. These interiors must have appeared full of light and colour at the time, and point to the degree of light gained in painting generally since then. The portraits in the exhibition are not all quite recent, and it is interesting to see the mellowing of colour in some of the older ones, as an indication of what will probably occur to the more brilliant recent work. There is no loss of quality, only a slight lowering of the general tone. The fine portrait of Miss Flora Thomas was first exhibited at the Retrospective Exhibition of the New English in 1925, and it now appears, if anything, richer than in its pristine freshness eight years ago.

Ethel Walker has always excelled in her portraits of girls. All her paintings are full of youth and joy and fragrance, and the result is, naturally, happiest when the subject suits the mood. She is to be particularly congratulated on her recent studies of children—the "Two Sisters," "Kathleen and Iris," and the two girls painted separately. The spontaneous grouping and eager expressions of the children have been caught by the painter, and rendered with her usual lightness of touch. A particularly beautiful portrait of a girl is entitled, characteristically, "A Summer Evening"; the mood is one of happy relaxation, and the design, emphasised by a red scarf and a black belt, is both novel and delightful. The portrait of Miss Isobel Christison, on the other hand, fails to suggest this happy harmony between painter and sitter, and therefore appears incomplete. But it is not only the lyrical mood of the moment that Ethel Walker can evoke in her portraits. The "Russian Poet, Nicholas Minsky" is an admirable character study in which humour hides beneath the solidly modelled features, and finds expression in the reflection in the mirror. Her flower-pieces are always enchanting, painted not for the botanist, but for the sensualist; they bring out the magic of colour, of scent—the evanescent glory of flowers.

One of the most beautiful things in the exhibition is the reclining "Nude": playful, fresh, spring-like, and youthful, it marks a great contrast to the early, more severely decorative "Silence of the Ravine" (not in the present exhibition), where a reclining nude



FLORA THOMAS
First exhibited in 1925



THE TWO SISTERS

figure was placed in profile against a dark background with red drapery in a somewhat angular, though decoratively very beautiful, pose. In the perfect ease with which the twisted torso, the raised hip and foreshortened legs of the present nude have been rendered, we see the hand of a very great master.

The Exhibition of Portrait Drawings of Art Celebrities by Cicily Hey (Mrs. R. R. Tatlock), on the first floor at the Lefèvre Galleries, cannot fail to cause delight to anyone acquainted with

the said celebrities. Falling somewhere between the realms of portraiture and caricature, they are obviously the result of intimacy with each individual portrayed, and if from the point of view of drawing, they often err in a certain looseness of construction, they seldom fail to make a humorous comment on the sitter. The portraits of Mr. Manson, Director of the Tate Gallery, of Mr. Charles Marriott, and of Mr. Wilenski, may be singled out as particularly successful in their various ways. M. C.

AT THE THEATRE ROUND THE CINEMAS

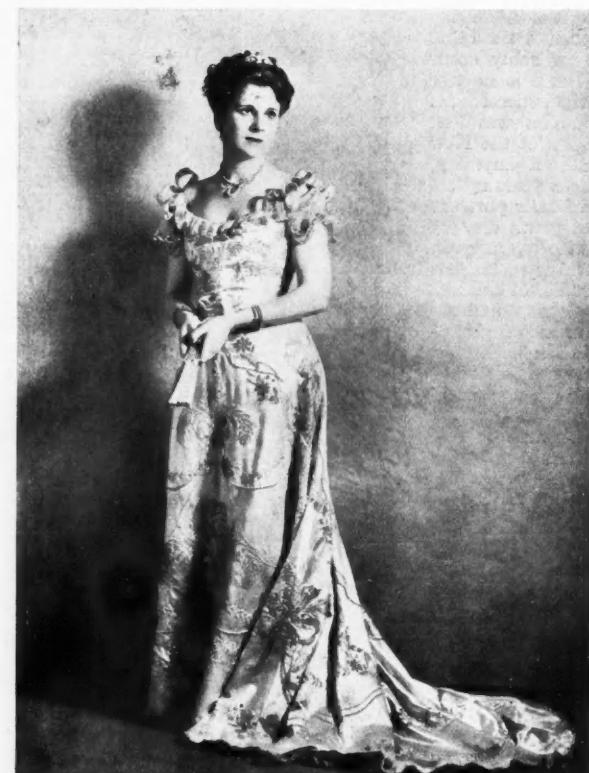
THE booby-trap into which every critic always falls headlong and pell-mell is to ask and attempt to answer the question: Whither is this or that art tending? It is possible that by this proceeding critics of music and painting do not stultify themselves. Is poetry receding to the limpid backwaters of Tennyson or advancing on the forbidding tide of T. S. Eliot? Is music going safely back to Mozart or leaping into the bottomless pit of Schönberg? In the novel and in painting it is also possible that there are common tendencies, though why one artist should take any notice of what another is doing I have never been able to make out. But the theatre and the film stand by themselves and are different. A lifetime of more or less intelligent interest in the former has convinced me that *of itself* the theatre has no tendencies of any kind except to follow the public whim, since you cannot call it taste. The public likes anything and everything, and all at the same time, very much in the way that a person might be supposed to eat ham and eggs, and strawberry jam, and cheddar cheese all on the same plate. I did this myself once in the neighbourhood of Wastdale and enjoyed it and offer no apologies to M. Boulestin. Thus London is capable of wolfing "Marigold" and "Musical Chairs" and "Mother of Pearl" all in the same mouthful, and nobody is going to pretend that these masterpieces are much of a muchness. In the films the same wise discrepancy prevails. "Cavalcade" rubs shoulders with "The Sign of the Cross," and "A Bill of Divorcement" once more shows how insanity may come between good companions. This reminds me that Mr. Priestley's novel, which ever since its first appearance has had a stranglehold on the public, has broken out in yet another form. There now remains the comic opera, after which comes the tabloid version for the beach in August, though even after this I cannot think that the rest will be silence. It may amuse Mr. Priestley to know that at Westcliff last summer I saw this notice:—"Daily on the foreshore at 2 and 8, The Good Companions—the concert-party, *not* the play." Well, as the little girl remarked of the taste of the capsules surrounding Gregory Powder, either you like it or you don't. And the same may be said of Mr. Priestley's farrago. Being loth to differ from the rest of mankind I shall express no opinion on the merits of this story and shall remain content with quietly repeating my view that Mr. Gielgud's Inigo Jollifant—surely the least convincing name ever invented—is easily the most silly-precious performance of a great actor. It has taken the whole of "Richard of Bordeaux" to make me forget Mr. Gielgud's excursions into zip-fastened jumpers, and I do implore him to realise that, like Henry Irving, Forbes-Robertson, and many other great actors, he must not expect to wear plus fours and a halo at the same time. Mr. Gielgud is a tragedian, and the tragedian was never born who in modern clothes on the stage did not look like a barber. "Sometime let gorgeous Tragedy in sceptred pall come sweeping by." Quite! But to come sweeping by in a morning coat is mincing, not majestic, and should not be attempted. Exquisite diction is equally

out of place in Mr. Priestley's opus, and perhaps by now it is apparent that I do not like Mr. Gielgud in "The Good Companions." Mr. Gwenn's performance is lovely, but Miss Mathews, alas, appears to conceive the film's title as *When The Midnight Goo goo Leaves For Alabama*. Her round-eyed wickering archness turns me to marble!

About the film of "Cavalcade" there would appear to be two opinions. "The sentimentality sweeps triumphantly along like a river of glue." "Each nerve is scraped in a singularly exasperating manner as one is ruthlessly reminded of everything one wants not to remember." "Only Mr. Coward at his most patriotic and snobbish could bring out the full horror of Edwardian vulgarity." It should hardly be necessary to say that I completely dissent from everything in an article oddly interlarded with references to tariffs and the Christian religion. One fact which the writer fails to overcome and indeed ignores is the enormous houses which this film is drawing. I frequently pass the Tivoli as the house is filling and emptying, and am therefore able to testify that the crowds flocking to see this film in no way differ from any other English congregation. In other words it is the English people which is going to see this film, and I suggest that highbrows carping in the name of art, dignity, and what not should smoke a pipeful of this fact. Personally I had no quarrel with "The Sign of the Cross" which seemed to me to be a good copy of what was always an exciting melodrama, though whether the subject is one upon which a melodrama should be founded is another matter. Doubtless the highbrows have made this point *ad libitum et nauseam*. I shall counter their objections by asking whether there is more seemliness in using the subject for an intellectual joke, which is what Mr. Shaw did when he wrote "Androcles and the Lion." But in so far as the subject of Christian martyrdom can be dealt with at all and in view of the fact that the film-producer had Wilson Barrett's mind to cope with, I shall say that it was done very well and that the scenes in the caves were handled with perfect reverence. Mr. Sydney Carroll achieved the almost impossible feat of eclipsing his faculty for disagreeing with me by suggesting that these scenes were not reverently played, and I hereby challenge him to produce the scenes between the two Disciples with a more noble simplicity than was achieved by the two unknown American film-actors.

The film made from Miss Clemence Dane's "A Bill of Divorcement" seemed to me a fairly successful reproduction of what was always a lugubrious entertainment. There was a young woman in this film who, attempting to look like Meggie Albanesi, exactly hit off Miss Cathleen Nesbitt. At the beginning Miss Katherine Hepburn antagonised the audience by an appearance of commanding interest instead of that dimpled babyishness so dear to the film critic of our great Sunday paper. But by the end the newcomer had vanquished everybody in the house always excepting Mr. Carroll who could find in this actress "only excessive vitality and a curious mental alertness." *Mais c'est beaucoup, cher collègue!*

GEORGE WARRINGTON.



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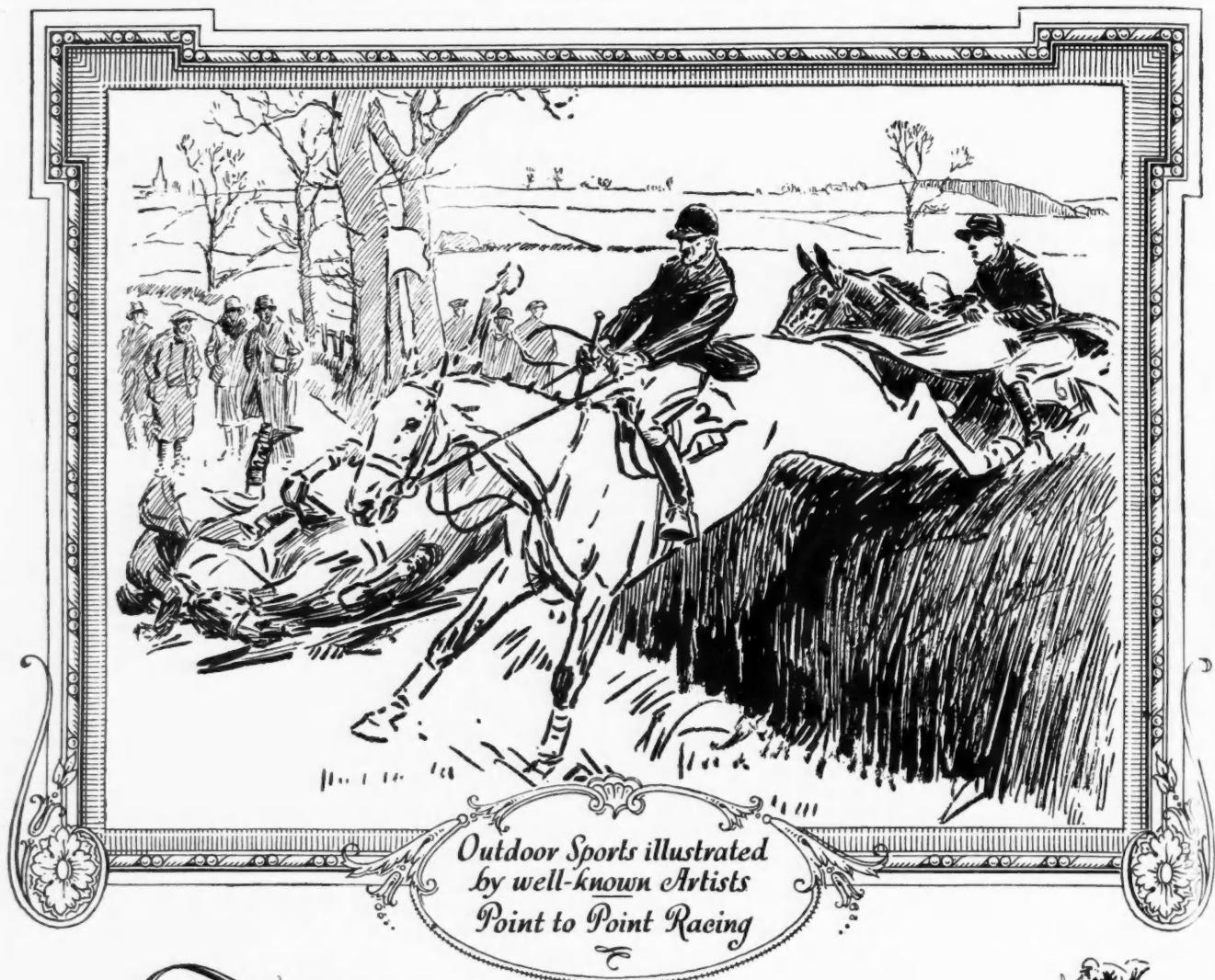
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CORRESPONDENCE

"WILD BIRD PROTECTION"

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—May I add to my letter of last week on this subject?

Lord Buckmaster's Bill does more credit to the heart than to the head of its promoter. It would be difficult to imagine a measure involving more anomalies or showing a greater amount of ignorance of real facts. Why (apart from sheer sentiment) should it be illegal to keep a British bird in captivity, but not a foreign one, which must undergo the possible trials and hardships of a long voyage?

Why should it be illegal to keep a British finch in the largest aviary, but legal to keep a British wild goose or duck on the smallest pond, in a pinioned condition?

Why should it be legal to keep British birds in captivity in zoological gardens, although the care they receive in public collections is seldom anything like as good as they get in experienced private hands? Why should it be legal to shoot a sparrow, blackbird or little owl, but illegal to keep even a hand-reared nestling as a pet?

No rare British bird has ever had its numbers dangerously depleted for aviculture. Of the species figuring on Lord Buckmaster's list the majority are either not kept at all or kept in infinitesimally small numbers by experienced people. They never form part of the stock of the poorer and more callous dealers.

The Bill is based largely on the false assumption that a bird has the mentality of a human being: the same capacity for abstract thought; the same power of remembering the past with sorrow and of viewing the future with dread; the same capacity for boredom; the same appreciation of beauty; the same dependence on an attractive and varied environment for pleasure in taking exercise.

The truth is that a bird lives almost wholly in the present and has very little capacity for abstract thought. It neither regrets the past nor dreads the future. Its happiness is derived, not from its thoughts, but mainly from freedom from disturbance by enemies, coupled with the satisfaction of its bodily needs—food, shelter, a bath, the company of a mate in some cases or at some seasons, and enough exercise to keep its body in health. The amount of exercise required for the latter purpose depends on the species. In the case of all British birds commonly kept in captivity it is less than complete liberty and sometimes much less. Moreover, a bird is wholly indifferent to scenery and to the beauty and variety of the environment in which it takes its exercise. The fact that wild birds soon become perfectly content in confinement is proved by their readiness to return to their cage or aviary when allowed their liberty, even before they have been fully tamed. In old days, and, for all I know, at the present time also, the training of wild finches to fly at liberty and return to their cages was quite a common art in Germany, as it still is in China, where insectivorous birds, after being tamed, are allowed to take exercise at liberty. The enormous number of experiments which I personally have tried with birds at controlled liberty have depended for their success on the readiness of birds to return to an aviary to which they have become attached by reason of the abundance of food and shelter.

To suggest that the average British bird belonging to a species commonly kept pines to death soon after being caught is nonsense. If mortality has occurred, it is proof that the dealer or catcher has greatly mismanaged his stock in the matter of feeding or cleanliness, and he should be prosecuted for cruelty on the same grounds as if he had starved and neglected rabbits or canaries. The idea that the parrot tribe can live in cages or tethered to perches without moping is less founded on fact than the same belief in regard to British finches and larks. Parrots are much more intelligent birds than small passerines; they fly much more for pleasure, and they are far more capable of boredom. In the latter respect they may be compared with the active-minded carnivora among mammals. You can bore a dog or a lion by close confinement; it is almost impossible to bore a cow or an antelope.

Finally, it should be borne in mind that thousands of British birds that are happy and well cared for have never been in a bird shop in their lives, but have been taken by their owner and very often hand-reared from the nest.

What is needed in the way of reform is a law preventing any kind of bird from being kept permanently in a cage less than two or

three feet in length; much more rigorous inspection of dealers' premises; and fines for overcrowding, bad feeding, dirt and neglect; and, last but not least, the prohibition of the sale of quails for food in summer, and of lapwings at any season.—TAVISTOCK.

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—I am surprised that in your delightful paper no single letter has appeared championing the cause of freedom for the wild bird. One would have expected Lord Buckmaster's Bill to be supported whole-heartedly by all readers of COUNTRY LIFE, a paper that devotes so much space to birds and their habits.

Surely the small songster with the freedom of the skies as its birthright cannot possibly be happy in a cage, even if its length be 24 inches, the minimum suggested by Lord Tavistock. The fact that so many little prisoners die in the early days of their captivity is proof of the cruelty of caging them.

In the days of cock fighting and bear baiting William Blake expressed his horror at a "robin in a cage"; cannot we of to-day show as much pity for all wild birds?—EDITH M. MARYON.

"TOWARDS AN AGRICULTURAL POLICY"

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—I have read with interest Mr. Christopher Turnor's valuable contribution to your columns regarding agricultural policy.

In view of the urgency of providing more employment, there is indeed need to pay the closest attention to the potentialities of our soil. The test of any scheme of land reform should be the method of cultivation to be adopted in order to ensure the maximum amount of employment on an economic basis. The application of this test would not exclude any particular form of farming, whether it be ranching, large scale cultivation, the development of small holdings, or a speeding up of the allotment movement. It is, however, futile to attempt to found an enduring system of land development unless the land can be made to pay. This fundamental principle was accepted by the Labour Party when seeking power, and when in office they were constantly twitted by opponents for their failure to fulfil their promise "to make farming pay."

The attitude of the National Farmer's Union, too, has always been that schemes for the reorganisation of agriculture and for marketing would not be acceptable until the interests of the home producer were safeguarded and he was guaranteed protection from the swamping effects of unrestricted foreign competition.

More recently the Imperial Conference at Ottawa adopted the principle that the home producer should be accorded the first place in his own home market.

Finally, it is well to remember that at the last election the man in the street gave hearty support to a National Government, to which he entrusted full powers to take whatever steps might seem best for the rehabilitation of trade and industry and a return to prosperity.

It is well, therefore, that the Government should make a serious endeavour to ameliorate

the unemployment situation through the fuller use of our soil. Agricultural production is new wealth. The receipts of agriculturists will be spent in giving employment to the industrialist by the purchase of clothes, boots, machinery and other goods made at home.

Restriction of imports, regulation of home production and wise marketing reforms may well bring new life not only to the countryside, but to the nation as a whole.

Mr. Turnor reviews many methods of soil development. He rightly draws attention to the advantages of closer settlement by way of small holdings where conditions and markets are suitable, and wisely does not exclude factory farming methods.

The establishment of more small holdings has many advantages, but, so far, it has never been authoritatively shown that they give more employment than factory farming where the nature of the soil and other conditions can be fairly compared. There is room, so it seems, even in our congested country, for both systems. They are not mutually antagonistic, as much assistance can be given to the large farm by small-holders settled in proximity to it.

Farming of this character should not, however, merely be confined to the growing of crops which give a small return per acre. A proportion of the area should be devoted to the cultivation of fruit, which gives much employment, and the growth of vegetables, such as onions, chicory and green peas, now sought for by our canning factories.

On the Continent the factory farm frequently specialises, sometimes in seed production. Much alcohol is also produced from potatoes, which are specially grown for the purpose. The factory processing carried on includes not only seed testing stations, sugar beet and alcohol factories, but china clay works, brick-making, and other developments of that nature.

It is important, therefore, when reviewing the position of agriculture, that various methods of cultivating the soil and processing its produce should be rigorously investigated in order to put fresh heart into this sorely tried industry and obtain once again the maximum settlement on the soil consonant with its full economic development.

Many will be grateful to you for opening your columns to a discussion on this vital subject.—DOUGLAS NEWTON.

IN A WILTSHIRE VILLAGE

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—The pretty little village of Keevil stands about five miles from Trowbridge. It is a delightful spot, and full of beautiful old cottages. The long gabled house of Talboys, dating from the fourteenth century (of which I send you a photograph), is a charming half-timbered building. It stands close by the roadside, and immediately claims attention. The back, with its old-world garden and lily pond is a joy to see, while the interior is beyond description. There is a fine minstrel gallery, and some quaint frescoes were discovered when the house was restored. Across the road stands the Jacobean manor house.—JANE HERBERT.



TALBOYS AT KEEVIL

March 18th, 1933.

THE NUTHATCH AS A MASON

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—I enclose a photograph of a nuthatch's nesting hole which, I think, may interest your readers. It is of course well known that these birds plaster up a hole with mud if it is too big; but this pair had entirely filled up a large crack in the trunk of the apple tree, which crack extended from the nesting hole up to the large hole seen at the top of the photograph.

The nesting hole itself, at which the bird can be seen, was only about two feet from the ground, and the mud filling above it measured eighteen inches by six inches by three inches, which represents a tremendous amount of work when you remember that the mud had to be brought a beakful at a time probably from the bank of a stream a few yards away.

The mud was marked all the way up with imprints of their beaks, which gave the effect of old rotten wood.—ELIZABETH SILVA.

[We sent our correspondent's letter and photograph to Miss Frances Pitt, who kindly sends us this interesting commentary: "The nuthatch is a great mason, and I knew of a case in which a pair plastered up a nest box in the strangest manner. The nesting birds seem



THE NUTHATCH AT ITS FRONT DOOR

to have an urge to fill up all crevices about the nest hole, and I can quite see how this couple, with a long crack in the tree, would go on filling it with mud somewhat after the manner in which starlings will drop sticks into a, for them, bottomless hole. It is astonishing what a mass of material the latter birds will thus collect. In one instance a pair of starlings shoved quite a barrowload of odds and ends through a hole in the shutter of a loft. The rubbish piled up on the floor, and their impulse drove the birds on to drop in more and more. Some of the nesting impulses of birds seem quite devoid of any controlling intelligence, yet in other respects they will show plenty of 'gumption.'”—ED.]

"MUMMERS' PLAYS"

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—Has not your correspondent D. N. Tod, who wrote on the subject of Mumming and Mummers, got mixed up with mumming and the wassailers—for the two are distinct—in your issue of February 10th? The Christmas mummers were well known in Gloucestershire till the late 1860's; to-day they are practically unknown in the Cotswolds. In those days

the mummers began their operations on St. Thomas's Day. A favourite "mumming drama" was that of St. George and the dragon, and usually the mumming party consisted of six persons, representing respectively St. George, the Dragon, the Grand Turk, the Doctor, Father Christmas, and Beelzebub or Little Devil Doubt. The bands of mummers visited every house in the village before Christmas Day, public-houses especially, and after their acting they ended with the speech by Beelzebub—who, by the way, had a humped back, tail, two-horned head, and a foot-long nose. The words were: "Here come I, Little Devil Doubt, If you don't give me money I'll sweep you all out. Money I want, and money I crave. If you don't give me money I'll sweep you all out to the grave." My father was a member of the mummers' party in the fifties and sixties of the last century, and used to relate their annual visit to the famous Cotswold Bear Inn on the Stroud-Cirencester road, and that rival mummers parties, when they met, used to attack each other and try to rob each other's money-box, held by Beelzebub. In 1928 a new company was formed, called the Gloucester Mummers, and their one-act plays were written by Mr. F. Morton Howard.—HUBERT BURROWS.

GROWTH OF A COLONY OF LARGE GULLS

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—In 1926 six pairs of lesser black-back gulls tried to nest in a North Lancashire sanctuary where many rare birds breed, but their eggs were destroyed. In 1927 they tried again, with the same result; but in 1928 there was an increase, and some of them managed to hatch their eggs. Two at least of these birds were paired with herring gulls. In 1929 there was a very marked increase, herring gulls becoming more plentiful among the lesser black-backs. All the first eggs were broken and a sackful of the second laying taken away; yet, in spite of this, I handled eleven chicks. A further increase was shown in 1930, and, in spite of most of the first clutches being destroyed, I handled and marked with rings eighty-six young.

In 1931 there was a large increase, for I marked 231 young with rings, of which two were herring gulls. Nineteen-thirty-two showed a further increase, when I marked 410 young with rings, of which twenty were herring gulls.

Their presence and increase are probably due to the extermination of two colonies in North Lancashire, and to the taking of thousands of eggs for food from their ancestral nesting ground of Foulsham Moss on the Westmorland-Lancashire border. I found two other new small colonies last summer, which, I think, were destroyed by farmers.

These big gulls are impossible in a sanctuary of rare birds. In 1931 they killed numbers of young shelduck, and last summer wiped out the large colony of Sandwich terns. Only twenty hatched out, and these were in all probability gobbled up by these undesirable neighbours. During the past summer I marked 679 young of these big gulls with rings.—H. W. ROBINSON.

A STRANGE VISITOR

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—I am not in the habit of rushing into print, especially where rare birds are in question; but the following facts are, to my mind, so interesting that I send them to you, hoping that you may think it worthy of mention in your always charming paper.

A lady friend of mine and neighbour, one day last week, heard a noise in her sitting-room, and on investigation found a large hawk in the room and, naturally, wishing to let it out, after a scrap which was somewhat hectic, with great ingenuity and armed with a pair of gloves got a copy of the *Morning Post* newspaper over it and let it out of the window.

My friend, who is a lover of birds, puts food each day on the window sill for our usual inhabitants, and so the only explanation I can offer is that the hawk, Montagu's harrier (male), which I know is naughty, had made an attack on the birds at the feed and somehow got into the room. There is no doubt that the bird was a Montagu's harrier, from the colour and size of the bird, besides which she looked it up in a Natural History. Each year I notice one or more of these beautiful birds on our commons round here (Farnham, Surrey).

I may add that I have taken COUNTRY LIFE in ever since it was first published.—GERARD STREATFIELD.

A ROCKY LIKENESS

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—I send you a photograph of a rock which is generally thought to bear a remarkable likeness



A ROCK THOUGHT LIKE QUEEN VICTORIA

to the late Queen Victoria. It is quite untouched, and stands on the top of Sir Lowry's Pass, near Somerset West, South Africa.—J. B. TAYLOR.

"FIREBALL"

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—I shall be grateful if any reader of COUNTRY LIFE will inform me where I can learn of the duels fought by the celebrated Captain "Fireball" Macnamara.

The Captain was out, as a principal, at least forty times, and frequently as a second. His pistols, which were bequeathed to a relative of mine, are now in my possession.—EDGAR SYERS.

DO YOU KEN JOHN SKIPWITH?

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—I should be very grateful if you would kindly insert a query in your paper which is, in effect, to ask if any of your readers can give me any information regarding a certain John Skipwith, who, I understand, was M.F.H. of a Yorkshire Hunt somewhere between 1820 and 1850. I am anxious to know the name of the Hunt and, if possible, the country that was hunted.—E. V. LERMIT.

TRAVELS WITH A DONKEY

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—You may care to see this photograph. It shows a picturesque old water carrier at Gibraltar. He is on the road to Spain.—N. VINES.



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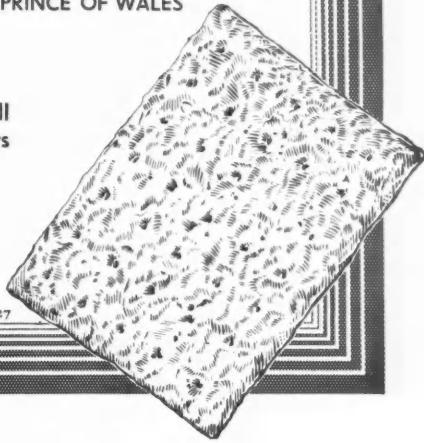
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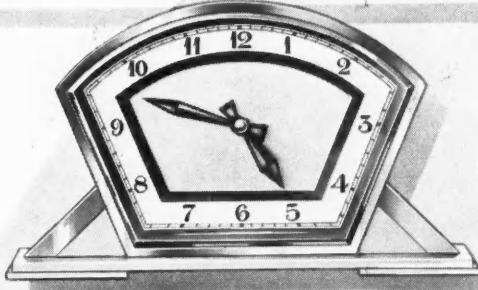
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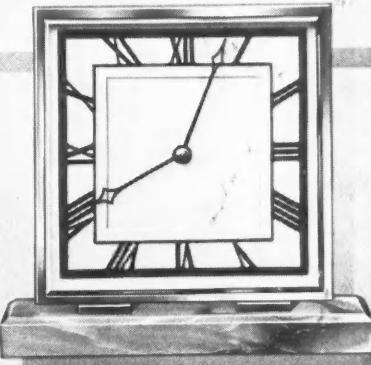
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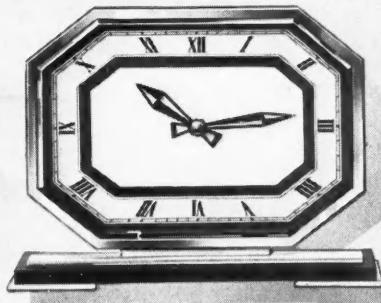
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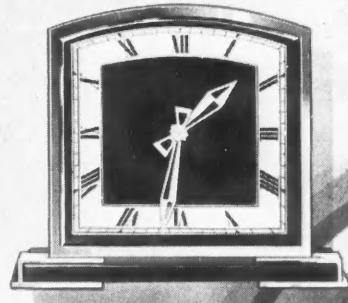
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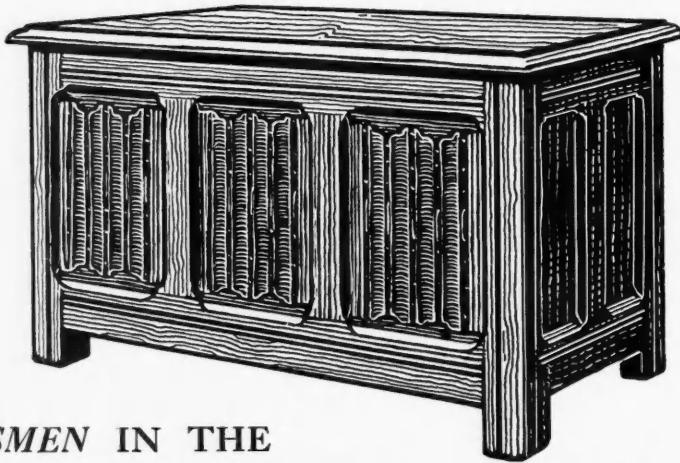
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A FLAT IN ORCHARD COURT, PORTMAN SQUARE

FROM DESIGNS BY MR. MAURICE ADAMS

THAT human nature is much the same, in spite of so-called progress, is revealed in a letter, written some 150 years ago, by Mrs. Elizabeth Montague to the Duchess of Portland, dated July 20th, 1779.

This good lady, the founder of the Blue Stocking Club, having become weary of her house in Hill Street, and "finding no pleasure in her Chinese Decoration, nor in her room of Cupidons," engaged an architect to build the detached mansion formerly known as Montague House, and now known as Portman House. Mrs. Montague sought the advice of almost all the best known architects of the day, and the brothers Adam were engaged to direct some of the work. In this letter Mrs. Montague narrated how she had been engaged in giving instructions to "Mr. Adam" and his workmen. "He came," she wrote, "at the head of a regiment of artificers an hour after the time he had promised. The bricklayer talked about the alterations to be made in a wall; the stone mason was as eloquent about the coping of the said wall; the carpenter thought the internal fitting up of the house not less important. Then came the painter, who is painting my ceilings in various colours according to the present fashion."

And now, some 150 years after Adam was at work in Portman Square, the whole of the east side has been pulled down, and on the site a large block of sumptuous flats erected. The new building, Orchard Court, takes its name from Orchard Street, which connects this side of Portman Square with Oxford Street.

The fascination of watching a contemporary style develop lies in the variety of ways in which different designers combine the wealth of new materials that industry puts at our disposal. In the past, to take the designers most closely associated with this particular square, Adam, Wyatt, and Leverton had mahogany and satinwood, plaster, and marble as their principal materials; Paris and Pompeii as their chief sources of ideas. Their results are almost indistinguishable save to the trained eye. But the scores of clever designers practising to-day have resources undreamt of by those great artists. Electricity, with all the subtleties of lighting that it confers, ply-board, enabling surfaces of any size to be panelled flush, the chromium-plating of metal, cellulose paints, the mechanical developments of weaving, and wonderful new textile materials. The infinite variety of shape and pattern which these



ENTRANCE HALL. GOLD TEKKO WALLS, GREEN AND SILVER SILK HANGINGS BY ALLAN WALTON; EBONISED FURNITURE

materials suggest of themselves render reliance on antiquity for inspiration not only unnecessary, but in many cases harmful. The modern designer, however, owes an allegiance no less imperative to his new masters, if he is not to lose himself in a riot of excess. The capabilities and inclinations of his materials, the fitness of his products to their purpose—these must be our criterions of judgment and the designer's guide.

It is unsound to insist, as some critics do, that because modern methods can be used to produce economical furniture, that therefore sumptuous decorative schemes are outside the scope of the modern movement. A luxurious room is as justifiable as an economical one, if the fitness of its contents to their purpose is complete, and the designer has developed the potentialities of his materials.

The flat illustrated is an interesting example of the application of modern design and materials to the more luxurious type of home. It is on the second floor of Orchard Court, and has been decorated and equipped in a modern style from designs prepared by Mr. Maurice Adams.

As will be seen from the illustrations, this flat has some unusual features. The aim of the designer was to create an atmosphere of elegant comfort, cheerful yet restrained. Full use was made of the advantages of modern lighting, the light fittings being somewhat elaborate and highly decorative. The more important light fittings have panels of pressed glass from designs by Allan Howes, A.R.B.S. Mirror glass in shades of silver and gold is extensively used throughout the flat to line recesses and elsewhere, since there are no pictures in the decorative scheme.

The hall, 16ft. by 12ft. 6ins., with walls of gold Tekko, and silver ceiling, is warm and inviting. The furniture consists of circular centre table, semicircular side table, settee and armchair, carried out in dull ebony with sharp reliefs of white sycamore. The centre table stands on a hand-tufted circular rug designed to match.

The hall settee is covered with black velvet contrasted with an Allan Walton material in a pretty shade of green and silver for seat and inside back. The curtains and chair cover are of the same material.

The lounge and dining-room have painted walls in oil colour simulating wood facings without panels. Grey



THE DINING-ROOM. GREY WALLS, ROSEWOOD AND SYCAMORE FURNITURE



BEST BEDROOM. PINK TEKKO AND AUSTRALIAN MAPLE FURNITURE



DINING-ROOM SIDEBOARD. PRESSED GLASS LIGHTING FITTINGS BY ALLAN HOWES

used for lounge, and yellow for dining-room. Rare and beautiful woods are used for the furniture throughout the flat. For the lounge, Canadian figured apple with reliefs of Bombay rosewood. For the dining-room, Bombay rosewood with reliefs of white sycamore. For the best bedroom, Australian maple butt, with fine reliefs of white sycamore; and for the principal dressing-room, Peroba and Bubinga.

The main corridor of the flat, with its arched ceiling, is decorated all gold, the doors being faced with polished white sycamore and ebony. An interestingly designed pair of polished steel gates divides it from the hall.

The walls of the chief bedroom are covered with pink Tekko, setting off to advantage the beautiful colour and figure of the Australian maple furniture. The design of the bed, raised on a platform, follows the form of a shell. Advantage of an existing wall recess was taken to build in a



THE MAIN PASSAGE FROM THE HALL

double pedestal dressing-table. This, as will be seen in the illustration, has back and ceiling of the recess covered with mirror glass, and includes two pressed glass illuminated panels designed by Allan Howes. The door on right of the dressing table connects with the principal bathroom.

Another feature of the flat is the cocktail room, formerly servants' hall. This room was stripped, and in place of a built-in dresser, built-in divan was introduced. There is an illuminated glass ceiling, cocktail bar, small table for meals (it is used as a breakfast room) and metal tube chairs. The furniture and woodwork in this room are finished bright red cellulose with chromium metal handles and mountings. The Tekko wall covering is of silver grey stamped with a delightfully light design of creatures and foliage.

So much of recent modern design is preoccupied with the more uncompromising materials, and is uncompromising in its attitude to habit or comfort, that the genial atmosphere of this flat is the more interesting. Its source may be Paris, 1925, rather than Stockholm, 1932, its ultimate begetters Ruhlmann and Lalique rather than Thonet and Mies van der Rohe. But it is none the less relevant to the main stream of development for that.



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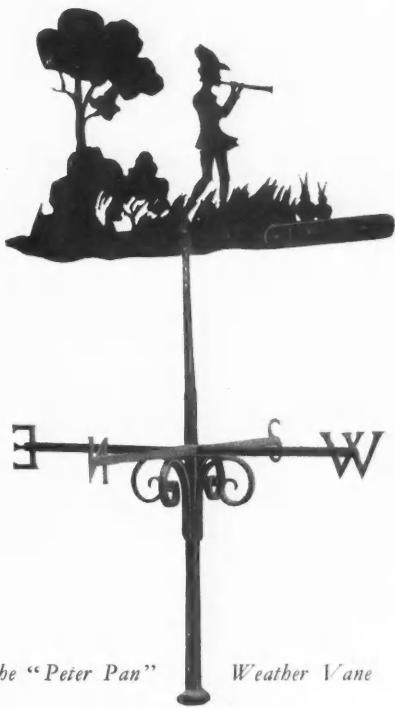
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By Appointment



The "Haslemere" Garden Gate



CLOUDS: A WILTSHIRE SEAT

THE ESTATE MARKET

THE HON. PERCY WYNDHAM, M.P., in 1876 bought Knole, a large area of downland overlooking Blackmoor Vale south-westward, and Fonthill Woods south-eastward. Beckford, author of *Vathek*, was a friend of the then owner of Knole, and it was the planting done by Beckford that beautified the Knole land. A site that enjoyed a special degree of shelter was chosen for Clouds, 600ft, though it is above sea level. (A picture of the house is given this week.)

Mr. Philip Webb, the architect, regarded the seat as the crowning achievement of his career. He was the friend of Morris, Rossetti and Burne-Jones, and for Morris in 1859 he designed the famous Red House on Bexley Heath. The first and second storeys at Clouds are of green sandstone quarried in the neighbourhood, and the third floor is of brick with a tiled roof. Dignified simplicity is the keynote of the interior, depending much for effect on a perfect proportion. In the hall, the woodwork is mainly polished oak, and the walls are white throughout, any suspicion of bareness being averted by the use of fine plaster enrichments of frieze and ceiling. The vaulted corridors on the first landing round the central hall are bright and cheerful and flooded with daylight. Decoration there is, subtle enough and fully warranting the statement that Webb spent six years in elaborating the design of Clouds. The gardens were in large part planned by Mr. Alfred Parsons, who provided special features that recall the typical old Wiltshire lay-out. In January, 1889, the house was destroyed by fire, but in three years the ruins were replaced by an exact copy of the original residence. There it was that that great English gentleman, George Wyndham, lived until his death in 1911. Clouds, to be offered by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley, lies near the boundary of Wiltshire, Somerset and Dorset, in the Wessex of Thomas Hardy and commanding views over Blackmore Vale, the "Vale of Little Dairies" of *Tess of the D'Urbervilles*. Clouds was fully illustrated in COUNTRY LIFE (Vol. XVI, page 738).

A HIGHGATE PLEASAUNCE

SIR JOHN CADMAN has requested Messrs. Prickett and Ellis to sell Westfield, West Hill, Highgate, a fine old Georgian mansion and 4 acres. The house could be retained while much of the land was being developed, and a good return on the purchase money could thus be got while enjoying all the residential advantages of this *rus in urbe*. Messrs. Jackson Stoops and Staff are, we believe, jointly interested as agents, and they are to sell Old Court, a beautiful old Tudor seat and 10 acres, seven miles from Ross-on-Wye.

Colinshayes Manor, 560 acres near Bruton, a Somerset seat of high sporting value, is for sale by Messrs. Constable and Maude, who are also to dispose of the Possington estate of Sir Cecil Fitch, at Cross-in-Hand, Sussex, 525 acres, with a very imposing mansion. The game bags show a very large head of all sorts of sport.

East Haddon Hall, in the Pytchley country, is to be let by Messrs. John D. Wood, furnished or otherwise. It is an Adam example.

Blackdown House, Fernhurst, four miles from Haslemere, 1,664 acres, is offered by Messrs. Curtis and Henson. In this house, dated over the porch "A.D. 1640," Cromwell is said to have spent a night; some say slept, but there were many occasions when he was far too busy planning another onslaught on the King's troops to do more than nod in his chair.

"UPSET" PRICES

ANNOUNCEMENTS of offers of property now very generally contain a statement of the price that would be accepted, and there is a growing tendency to quote "upset" prices at auctions. It is not easy to predict how long properties will be purchasable on the terms named for so many of them. Recent expressions of opinion that agricultural land forms a promising lock-up for capital have not been followed by any general efforts to sell farms, although the response by buyers, wherever any farms have come under the hammer, has been satisfactory.

Recent sales by Mr. A. T. Underwood include 135 acres of building land near Three Bridges; Mayfields, Lowfield Heath, a residential property of 16 acres (with Messrs. Stuart and Johnstone, Limited); Kitsbridge Farm, Copthorne, with 38 acres; Byeways, Crowborough, with 6 acres (with Mr. Roderick T. Innes); and building land, Crawley. On behalf of the Baroness Wentworth, Mr. Underwood has let on lease Hillside House and Oakfield Cottage, Worth.

Mr. Alfred Fowler's recent Hertford sales include: Ponsbourne Manor House, Ponsbourne Park, with 8½ acres; Cornwood, Westland Green, Little Hadham, 3½ acres; and Burford, Broxbourne.

The Surrey property known as Camilla Lacey, the original house on which was associated with Fanny Burney, has been sold with its surrounding land for development.

Oak Knoll, Sunningdale, a modern residence with 2 acres, close to the links, recently offered by auction, has been sold by Messrs. Giddys.

Snowdenham Hall Lake, Branley, near Guildford, has been sold by Messrs. Tyser, Greenwood and Co., the Chiswick firm of which Major H. Norman Harding, chartered surveyor, formerly with Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley, is the head. This beautiful sheet of water covers an area of 6½ acres, and additional land and woodland, making a total of 15 acres, was included in the sale. A well wooded hillside and land gently sloping down to the lake, together with an island, greatly add to its beauty. Tiny brooks intersect the property, and the woodland paths are delightful, rhododendron, fern and bamboo, having been planted to enhance its natural charm. The lake affords good trout fishing. The firm has recently sold Nos. 6, Cedars Road and 30, Duke's Avenue, Chiswick; 2, Brook Road, Gunnersbury; and the well known riverside residence, Egot Villa, Chiswick Mall; and Nos. 11, Addison Road and 3, Addison Road, Bedford Park. Parcels of ground rents at Southampton, Bedford Park, Acton and Mill Hill Park have also been disposed of, and Messrs. Tyser, Greenwood and Co. acted for the purchaser of 82, Chiswick High Road.

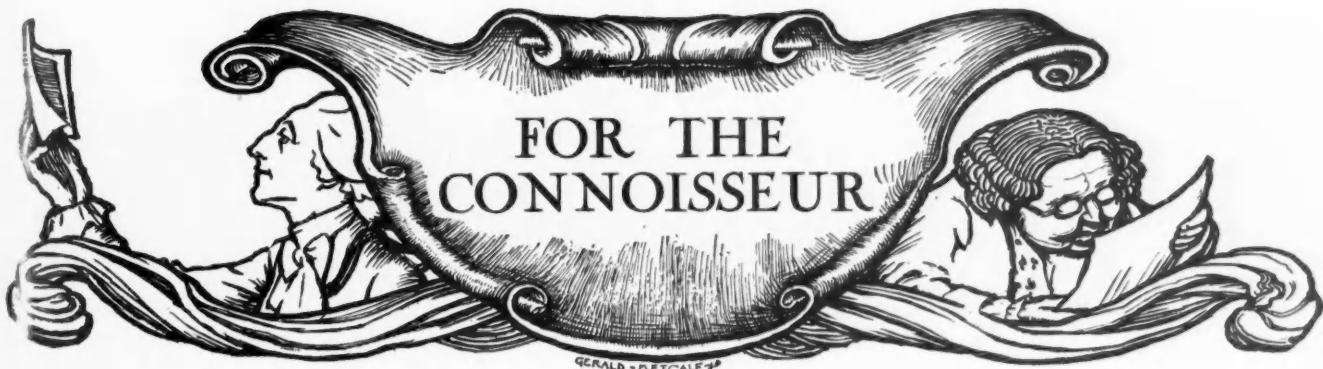
Messrs. Collins and Collins announce the sale of Queensmere, Wimbledon. This mansion, built of white Purbeck stone, stands in 4½ acres and is a replica of a Tudor manor house. The interior is panelled in oak, and there is an Elizabethan staircase.

GROSVENOR PLACE

MAYFAIR is not merely changing, it has changed out of knowledge in part, especially in and around Berkeley Square. When those changes really began on a large scale the comforting assurance was held out in some quarters that residential privacy would survive in Belgravia. Recent announcements in the Estate Market page of COUNTRY LIFE sound the premonitory call of an inroad on that privacy, for large blocks of flats are to be completed in Lowndes Square by the end of the summer. Elsewhere, towards Rutland Gate and south of it in Kensington, blocks of flats and the conversion of houses into flats mark the tendency of the times, towards alteration in uses and amenity: not that a block of flats necessarily implies deterioration of amenity, but it is a feature that would not have been permitted a few years ago in certain parts of the West End. But neither would offices have been thought of in, say, such a thoroughfare as Grosvenor Place. Now there are well established headquarters of great concerns, and clubs, too, enjoy accommodation in the mansions that overlook the garden of Buckingham Palace.

Walpole said that about the year 1761 the land on which Grosvenor Place is laid out might have been bought by the Crown for a certain sum, which we now know was less than half what a single mansion there would cost nowadays. When George III was adding part of the Green Park to the new garden of Buckingham House, the fields on the other side of the road were to be sold for £20,000. That sum Grenville spitefully refused to issue from the Treasury. The ground was leased to builders, and thus originated Grosvenor Place, "overlooking the King, to his great annoyance, in his private walks."

Two years ago the Duke of Westminster sold one of the large freehold mansions near Hyde Park Corner to the Road Transport and General Insurance Company, Limited, the purchasers' agents being Messrs. Debenham, Tewson and Chinnocks. The marble staircase and other features of the premises, which had been Lord Hambleden's town mansion, were retained in the adaptation of the house to business purposes. Now the opportunity of acquiring a building lease of another large area in Grosvenor Place presents itself in an offer of 26,600 square feet at the corner of Wilton Street. Messrs. George Trollope and Sons are the agents. When, about 100 years ago, Lord Hatherton moved from Portman Square to his new mansion—which Macaulay called "a palace"—in Grosvenor Place, his servants "gave him warning" because "they objected to live in such an unheard of part of the world as Grosvenor Place." Later, however, the Duke of Grafton, the Duke of Northumberland, and members of the Rothschild family chose Grosvenor Place for residence, and so did Lord Mahon, the historian. ARBITER.



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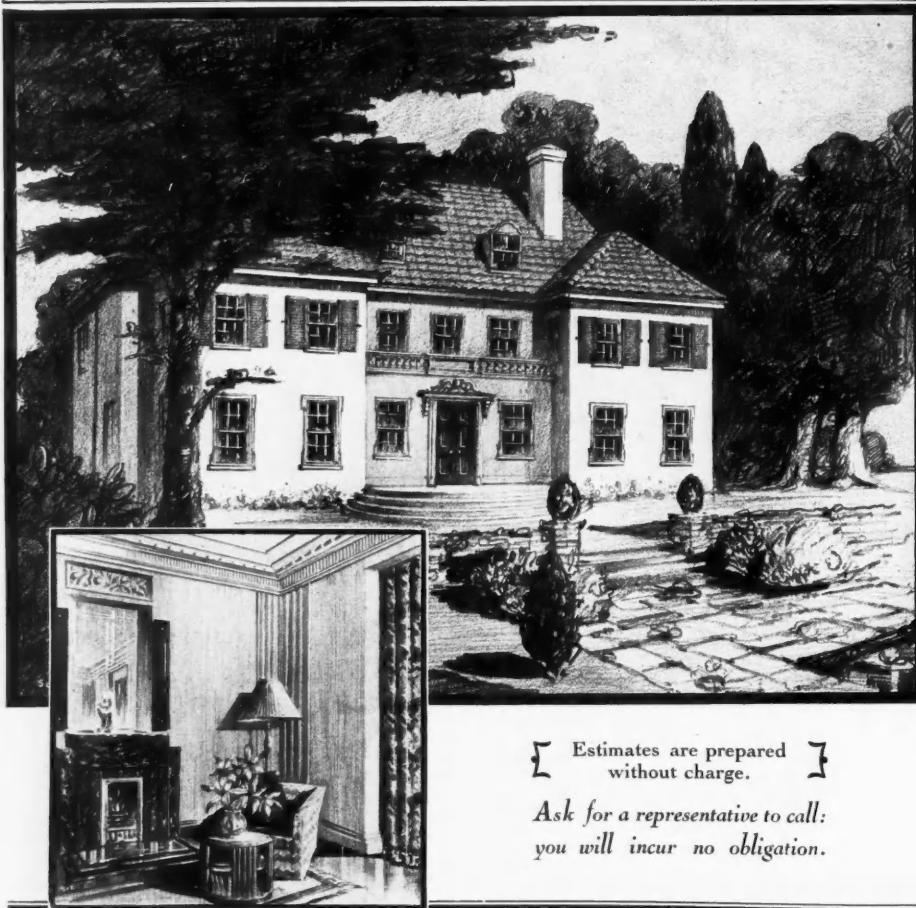
AN Early Chippendale Mahogany WRITING TABLE, with serpentine front, and carved angles. Width 4ft. 7in. Circa 1760.

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“CARLTON HOUSE” TABLES

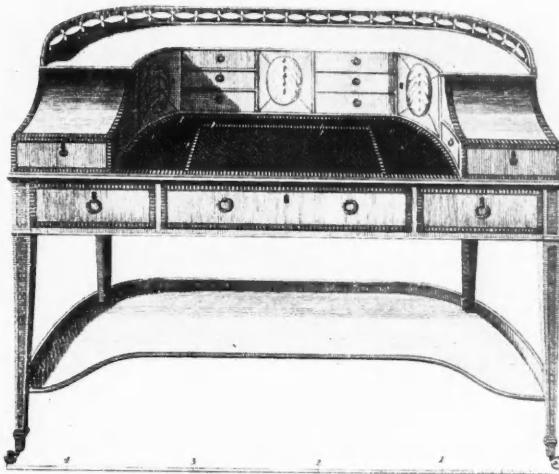
HERE appears to be no definite evidence that any writing-table of the type called after Carlton House had actually been made for the Prince of Wales by the time the name is first found attached to tables of the characteristic shape. The earliest known use of the designation is on a design in Gillow's Cost Books dated 1796, executed for the Earl of Derby two years later. In Sheraton's *Drawing Book* (1791), a similar design, but with coved ends, does not employ the designation, but is called simply a “Secretaire.” On the other hand, it is clear that the Prince Regent made use of writing-tables of the type, since an example dating from about 1815, with a curved back, and tapering legs capped with a tassel, like in the example illustrated in Fig. 2, is now at Buckingham Palace and is stated to have been originally in his bedroom at Carlton House.

So much for the name, which, in default of concrete evidence, we may suppose was applied in the trade to this particular type of secretaire, which came into vogue after 1790 and at a time when the Prince's “set” was setting the fashion in furniture as in other things. Another example of this factor's influence is seen in the well known pattern of chairs introducing the Prince of Wales's feathers in the design of the backs, for which there is similarly no evidence that the type was ever supplied to Carlton House. Throughout the Regency the feathers were a popular ornament, not solely owing to the prestige (or lack of it) of the Prince, but partly because the feathers provided a useful, and patriotic, alternative to the Greek anthemion ornament, which had no national connotation, but which was appropriate to the increasingly Attic severity of furniture designs.

Carlton House, the shade of which has recently returned to haunt the public eye, was made over to the Prince of Wales after his twenty-first birthday in 1783. It had originally been built by Henry, Lord Carleton, in 1709; was inherited by his nephew, the celebrated Earl of Burlington, and sold by him to Frederick, Prince of Wales, in 1732. On Frederick's death in 1751 the house remained in the occupation of his widow, the Princess Augusta, George III's mother, till her death in 1772. For eleven years it stood untenanted; but immediately on his acquisition of the house, the future George IV began altering and re-furnishing it, engaging Henry Holland as his architect. He renewed the front, added the Corinthian portico which now graces the National Gallery, and a colonnade separating the forecourt from Pall Mall, the columns of which were used up by Nash for the conservatories of Buckingham Palace.

Two of these buildings remain *in situ*, and a third was moved to Kew Gardens.

In the furnishing of Carlton House Holland's was the controlling personality, after that of the Prince himself. It has been said of George IV that he had a great deal of taste, but, unfortunately, it was much of it bad. While there is a grain of truth in the epigram, the badness belonged to his age, in which he stands out as the possessor of extraordinarily wide and, on



1.—DESIGN FOR A SECRETAIRE
From Sheraton's “Drawing Book,” 1791

the whole, well informed taste. No monarch since Charles II exercised so lively and stimulating an influence on architecture or the applied arts, and he had the discernment to select the finest designers of his age for his servants. True, he favoured Nash, a man of the world, rather than Soane, the man of temperament. And to the charge that the Brighton Pavilion is in bad taste, it can be replied that it was regarded as admirable at the time, and that he was instrumental in creating Regent Street, the Regent's Park, and the National Gallery, as well as Carlton House, where, in Henry Holland, he gave scope to incomparably the best architect of the period. It is one of the tragedies of English art that Holland died when he did, in 1806. Had he survived, much that is exceptional in Regency taste would undoubtedly have been subdued.

The “Carlton House table”

is characteristic of what Holland stood for in the taste of the Regency, and represents a tendency that, fortunately, survived him. Nowadays, when we bring to the appreciation of old furniture a sense of structure and practicability formed by the modern movement in design, we recognise the work of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century cabinet-makers as being inspired by closely similar motives to our own. The productions of Holland and his school particularly strike us as embodying the requirements of structure and use as fully as the most utilitarian of modern designs, and as possessing, in addition, the quality of grace that is often wholly absent from the projects of our less civilised contemporaries.

The beauty of Holland's architecture, more especially of his interiors, lies in the elimination from them of all adventitious decoration and the retention of essentials alone. The point is, though, that foremost among these essentials was the grace of humanist proportions. The work of the period is often a perfect combination of the requirements of eye and use.

Among the objects which may be said to have attained perfection in this golden age of design was the writing-table. As a specific piece of furniture, writing-tables do not appear till after the Restoration. An example with S-scrolled legs and drawers resting on the top of the table (the latter characteristic of the germ of the Carlton House type) is at Kensington Palace, and dates from *circa* 1685. Thereafter tables intended specifically for writing took rather the form of massive library tables, sumptuous in decoration. The first suggestion of the Carlton House type is Sheraton's design for a secretaire in his *Drawing Book* (1791)

which is a Carlton House table in all but name (Fig. 1). Light in weight, and therefore easily movable, it unites a large writing space with easily accessible storage accommodation in the superimposed top, the whole being in a high degree graceful and pleasing. A characteristic feature is the curved plane descending from the upper to the lower level of drawers. Among his observations on writing-tables in general, Sheraton makes the sensible



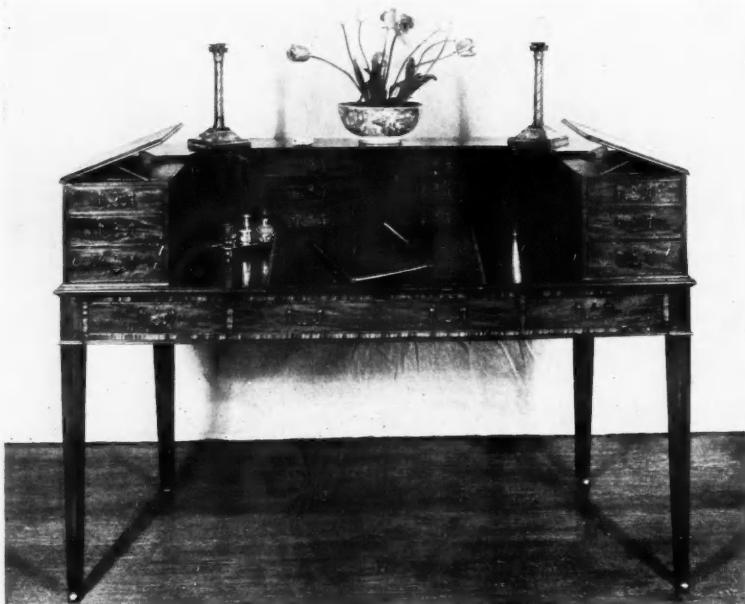
2.—“CARLTON HOUSE” TABLE, IN MAHOGANY
Width 68in., total depth 39in. *Circa* 1815. From the collection of the late Mr. Reuben Sassoon

remark that they "should be the medium of that which may be termed plain or grand, as neither (extreme) suits their situation. Mahogany is the most suitable wood, and the ornament should be carved or inlaid, what little there is," as they frequently meet with "a little harsh usage."

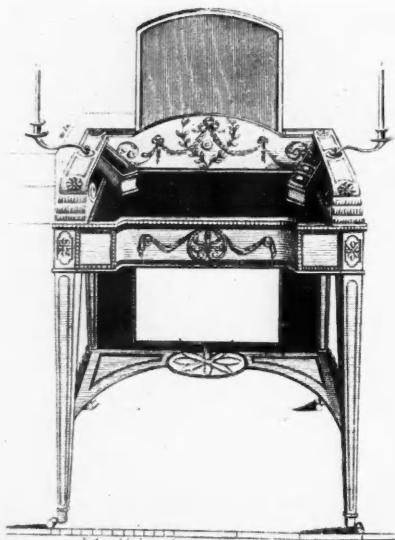
The subject of Carlton House tables cannot be better studied than in Messrs. H. Harris's collection, where examples are to be found ranging from the small mahogany and satinwood example (Fig. 5), dating quite likely from 1795, to a handsome instance veneered with zebra wood as late perhaps as 1840. The former has the appearance of being a maker's trial piece, in that, though beautifully finished, with cedar-wood drawers and tapering reeded legs, it obviously does not develop the full possibilities of the type.

These reach maturity in the large example illustrated in Fig. 2, and dating perhaps from *circa* 1815. It is constructed in mahogany and veneered with the "fiddle-back" variety of the same wood of very fine figure. The tapered legs have the tassel capping noted in the Buckingham Palace example. The curved ramps favoured by Sheraton have been abandoned, and the drawers end in a series of steps, a more business-like arrangement. Indeed, the piece is obviously masculine and practical, and has the interesting peculiarity of containing a letter-box—the slit is above one of the cupboards in the top, the door of which was, no doubt, kept locked. The flap, rising on a rack on the writing space—a feature of most examples—is in this case unusually large.

A similar table (Fig. 3) provides two of these flaps on the top of the drawers, either side of the writer, for the use, no doubt, of secretaries. This table, with its predominantly rectangular form, differs from the majority of Carlton House tables



3.—"CARLTON HOUSE" TABLE, WITH RISING DESKS FOR SECRETARIES. Formerly in Lady Hudson's collection at Hill Hall



4.—"A LADY'S WRITING TABLE" From Sheraton's "Drawing Book," 1791



5.—A LADY'S WRITING-TABLE
In mahogany and satinwood. Circa 1795. From Messrs. Harris



6.—A LADY'S WRITING-TABLE
Satinwood. A realisation of the design in Fig. 4

in the carrying through of the drawers to a square end on either side of the writer, thus abandoning the "ramp" characteristic of the type, and marking the Sheraton design, which may be considered the parent of Carlton House tables in general. It might, in fact, be named rather a Carlton House Terrace table!—where Royalty has been succeeded by commerce; for it is permissible to regard it as having probably been made for a man of affairs, for use in the office even, rather than in the home. The provision of desks for secretaries makes of it, indeed, a very interesting piece historically, as suggesting how the stenographer-problem was dealt with by our ancestors. The gentleman who used this

table must have been a very big man indeed if he kept two secretaries busy at once!

Allied with the development of this type of table was that of another, more essentially feminine, sort, also illustrated by Sheraton in 1791 as a Lady's Writing Table (Fig. 4). In Messrs. Harris's collection are two examples that correspond closely to Sheraton's design. That illustrated (Fig. 5) lacks only the rather impractical little tray. It has the rising satin screen, by the use of which, in Sheraton's words, "a lady, when writing, may both receive the benefit of the fire, and have her face screened from the scorching heat." To raise the screen, as in Sheraton's description, a patera in the centre of the back is pressed. The swinging trays housed in the lateral "arms" are also kept closed by catches actuated by buttons incorporated in the ormolu candle-brackets. The example is of plain satinwood, without any of the inlay suggested by Sheraton, veneered on a mahogany carcass. Though tables of this type are not designated "Carlton House," they are essentially the same in principle.

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THE MODERN PERCHERON

THE ENTERPRISE OF MESSRS. CHIVERS

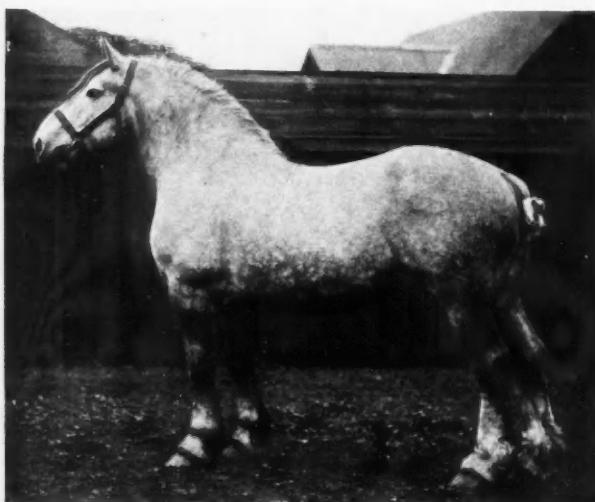
THE progress made by the Percheron horse in this country in recent years is to some extent the outcome of the Great War. Draught horses of world renown have been developed in the Perche district of north-western France from the old stock which in turn have served the varying needs of history. Thus in the Middle Ages it fulfilled the duties of a powerful charger in war. Progressively it developed into an artillery and agricultural horse and even played its part in the old stage coach days. The introduction of the railway, however, served to end its career for anything but purely heavy draught purposes. Much speculation exists as to its origin and development. This is, however, of little importance to-day, since it is



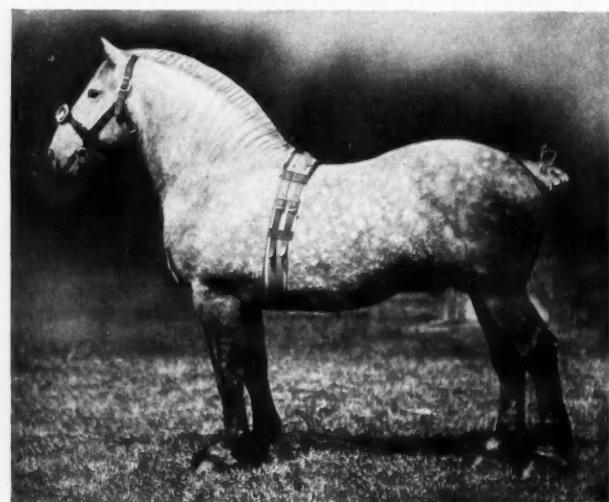
PERCHERON STALLION VILLABON, B276
1st and Reserve Champion R.A.S.E. Shows 1924 and 1926. Sire of numerous winners

an established type with a record of careful breeding in its recent ancestry comparing very favourably with any of our British breeds. A far-sighted policy of veterinary control of breeding stock was in operation in France long before its general adoption in this country. Thus Government aid has done much to foster the improvement and development of the modern Percheron. The subsidisation and licensing of approved stallions, for example, was a part of the Government control, while the Percheron Horse Society of France was founded in 1883.

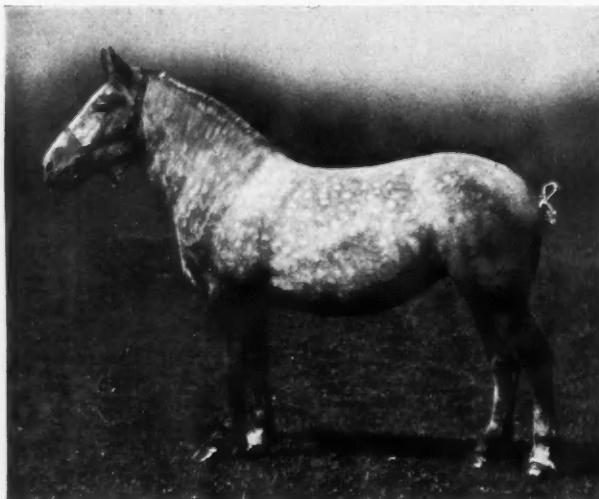
Users of horses in North America were among the first to appreciate the good qualities of this breed, and extensive importations were made from about 1851 onwards. Their progress on



VILLABON, B276
1st and Reserve Champion R.A.S.E. Shows 1924 and 1926
Sire of numerous winners



CENSE, B409
First and Supreme Champion at the Royal, 1930. Sire of numerous winners, including the Champion Stallion and Reserve Champion Mare, R.A.S.E. Show, 1932



G. H. Parsons HISTON BONNY II, B879
First Junior Champion and Supreme Champion at the Royal, 1930



BRAMPTON EVE, B431
First prize brood mare at the Royal, 1930

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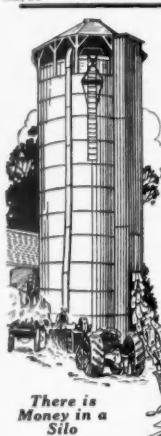
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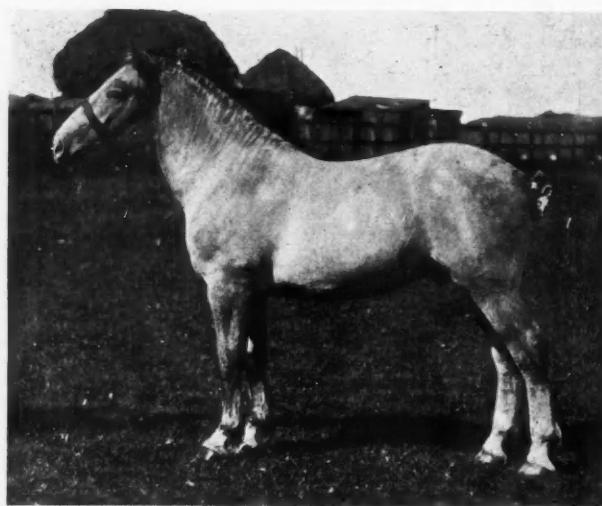
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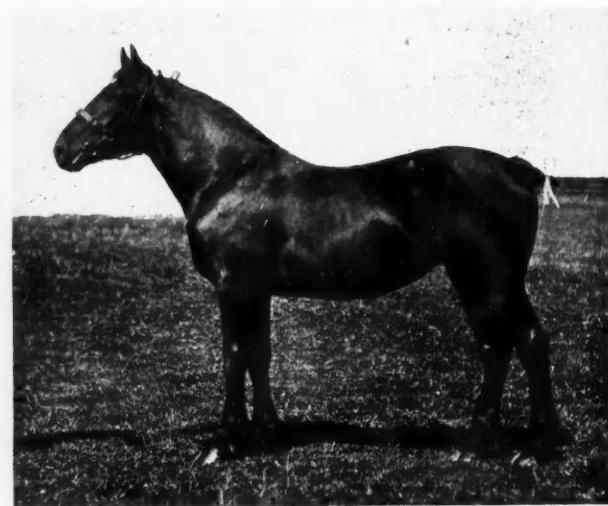


G. H. Parsons HISTON MATCHLESS, B466
Yearling colt. First prize at the Royal

the North American continent was such that they now rank as the foremost draught horse breed, and in the United States outnumber all other types. This is, perhaps, a sufficient tribute to the agricultural merits of the breed.

Mr. J. Stanley Chivers, who is the President of the British Percheron Society, first became attracted by the breed during the War, in the Field Artillery Brigade. As the War progressed it became necessary to import large numbers of horses from North America, and many of these were Percherons or Percheron crosses. Their arrival was immediately appreciated, and their capacity for thriving under very difficult and unpleasant conditions was particularly marked. With their clean legs, good feet and limbs, they won the approval of all who had experience of hairy-legged animals which required more attention under muddy conditions. War and agriculture may be poles apart, but the farm is the breeding ground of the draught horse, and the interchangeability of the animal in question is a modern necessity. Thus it came about that Mr. Chivers considered that the ideal artillery horse must be equally ideal for agricultural purposes, and the Histon stud of Percherons was the consequent outcome.

The foundation horses were five fillies purchased in France in 1918. They were compared with both Shire and Clydesdale horses, and soon created an impression at Histon that they met a need which hitherto had not been filled. Thus their clean legs gave them an advantage over their hairy-legged companions, in the sense that after a hard day's work on heavy land they could be cleaned and groomed in much less time. As a result of this initial experience the Percheron has been increased, until now the Histon stud contains over one hundred animals of the breed. The Percherons are found to be ideal for all sorts of farm and road work on the 6,000 acres of land farmed by Messrs. Chivers and Sons, and constitute the principal horse breed employed.



HISTON GAY LADY, B932 Copyright
Yearling filly. Won 1st prize, Junior Championship and was
Reserve for Open Championship, R.A.S.E. Show 1931

As a breed they have proved to be remarkably adaptable and quiet. The young horses are broken to work at two to two and a half years old, and engage in the full work of the farm by the age of three and a half. Mating of fillies is practised at three years old, while the mares all work up to the time of foaling. The horses are found to be easy to break to work, while their quietness is such that most of the older stallions are regularly worked during the winter. The working of stallions is the usual procedure in France, and it must be recognised that the influence of this is not only beneficial so far as the perpetuation of docile qualities is concerned, but also ensures that "soft" workers are eliminated. In the majority of our British horse breeds, stallions are usually judged on their conformation properties alone, and for the rest live idle lives.

The Percheron is particularly noted for its longevity. Most of the mares originally imported are still working and breeding regularly. The use of the Percheron stallion for crossing indicates that the breed is extremely prepotent. The reason for this is that no outcross has been introduced into the breed for many years, and the British Percheron Horse Society is following the parent French society in keeping the stud book open to stock of registered origin only. Thus there is no "grading-up" allowed. The cross with the Shire mare is proving particularly successful, giving a heavy type of animal with clean legs, which is very suitable and much in demand for town work.

The Percheron is a short-legged, blocky type of horse, and the common colours are grey and black. Its nearest type rival in this country is the Suffolk, and it is of interest that in some cases the Percheron is being preferred to the famous East Anglian breed. The breed is undoubtedly gaining favour, and particularly on heavy soils, while Percheron crosses in this country are becoming more numerous.

H. G. R.

DRY TREATMENT OF SEEDS

PLANTS, like humans, suffer from childhood diseases. This fact, although so patent from the tremendous annual losses in cereals and other crops, has not been realised in this country until quite recently. True, many farmers have carried out a treatment of seed wheat with copper sulphate or other similar dressing for autumn sowing, but very little attention has been given to such important crops as oats, barley, and the root crops.

It is only in comparatively recent years that Dr. D. G. O'Brien of the West of Scotland Agricultural College (illustrated recently in these pages) demonstrated that the "leaf stripe" disease of oats, which had caused enormous losses in Scotland and, indeed, in the whole of Great Britain and Ireland, is due to a specific fungus disease (*Helminthosporium avenae*). The losses sustained from this disease for half a century or even longer were previously attributed to grub or unfavourable weather conditions, but science has now put its finger on the actual cause of the trouble.

Fortunately, scientists in another country had for about twenty years been working intensively on the problem of discovering a chemical preparation capable of destroying all diseases borne on (and in) the coats of seeds while at the same time not in any way inhibiting their germination. From time to time various dressings were discovered and put on the market, but although very satisfactory, these were specific in their action against certain plant diseases, and the goal which the plant pathologists and chemists set before them was the discovery of an ideal dressing capable of application with equally satisfactory results to all crop seeds.

Patience and resource were rewarded about six years ago by the perfecting of a new form of dust dressing containing mercury in an organic combination which fulfilled the desired conditions. Writing of this chemical in an article on the subject

in 1929, the writer stated that "a still more recent discovery of a dust, containing only a small percentage of mercury and capable of controlling a large number of seed-borne diseases, is likely to revolutionise the whole question of dressing seed against disease."

This prediction had had its fulfilment. Since that time this preparation has won the official recommendation of many countries of the world, including our own, and so rapid and extensive has been its adoption in British farming that in the third year of its introduction no less than half the total oats acreage of Scotland was sown with treated seed.

Our friends in the north were not slow to recognise the financial benefit resulting from the treatment, since actually, by economising on seed one can secure a crop increased in value even up to £2 per statute acre.

Even more striking results have been reported from Ireland, where the same chemical has proved an excellent controllant of "leaf stripe" of barley, leading to increases in crop in many instances of 5cwt. per statute acre.

Not alone cereals, but other crops, such as sugar beet, swedes, turnips and peas, benefit markedly from seed treatment. Thousands of tons of sugar beet "seed" are every year treated by the new method against "black leg" disease (*Phoma betae*).

The plain lesson to be learned from the foregoing facts is that modern seed dressing is a factor to be reckoned with in the raising of healthy crops. It is no longer an unpleasant and troublesome business likely to damage one's seed, but a form of insurance of which every farmer should avail himself. Practical experience on large acreages in this country during the last three years has shown that no up-to-date farmer can afford to ignore the matter of seed dressing. Being so intimately connected with the very life of the seed—his potential crop—it is something which must be considered as not only advisable, but indispensable.

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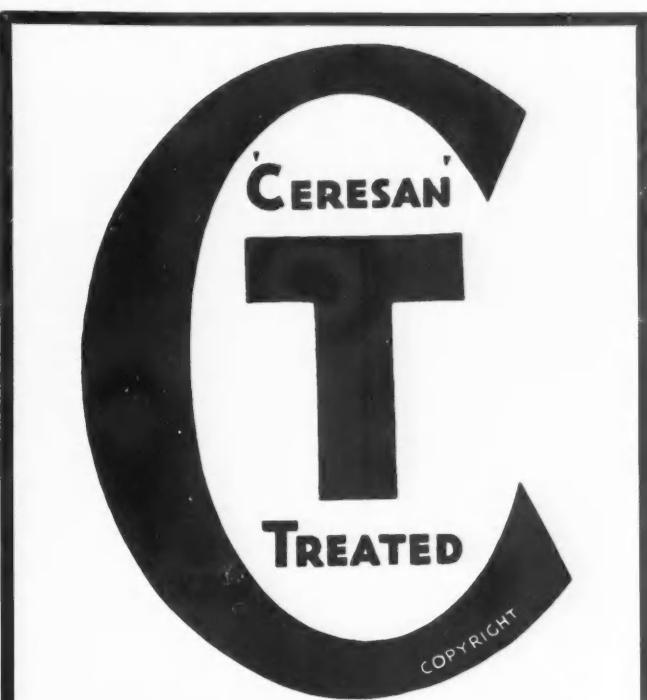
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"TO GRID OR NOT TO GRID . . ."

IN Ireland recently a cottager told me his electricity from the Shannon Scheme was very cheap and cost only 1d. a unit. On suggesting that perhaps he paid a fixed charge in addition, he said: "Of course, there is the quarterly rent of it." When we divided the number of units he used into the money he paid the cost per unit came to nearly 2s.!

This was Ireland; but even here the real cost per unit is absurdly high when we remember the cheap and abundant supply all over the country which was hailed with enthusiasm by the popular Press and public at large at the appointment of the Central Electricity Board with its "Grid" Scheme.

The Scheme provided for supplies at 132,000 volts in bulk to local undertakers and by a process of standardisation and centralisation to reduce the cost of electricity to (presumably) the consumer. No doubt the super power stations are very efficient, but what interests the owner of a house is the price he has to pay, and here he is in the hands of local undertakers (unfortunate word) who buy the current from the Central Electricity Board's "selected" stations.

We have heard a lot about "1d. a unit," but what private individual in the country gets all his current for 1d. a unit?

It is easy to understand that a densely populated district expects to pay a lower price than a country district, but it is difficult to see why the methods of computing are as varied as the colours of the rainbow or, perhaps, as numerous as the hairs on the poor dog's back would be a better simile.

Electricity is a commodity much like gas or water, and ought to be paid for in the same simple way.

Not only has every local undertaker a different method of computing the bill, but most of them have several alternatives.

A country house owner trying to decide which tariff to adopt must feel between the devil and the deep sea; but, whatever the choice, there is not likely to be much difference in the amount of the bill, and, in any case, it is ridiculously high.

An actual example for a fair-sized house in a south country village will show the variations which it would puzzle most people to work out when considering the advisability of taking a supply from the mains:

CAPITAL OUTLAY.

The Company ask a contribution of £87 as part cost of running overhead lines to the house from their nearest transformer station, and the choice of two alternative tariff charges for the current.

ANNUAL COST.

Tariff Charge No. 1.

Flat rate of 9½d. per unit for lighting.
3d. per unit for heating.

Consumption is estimated at 4,500 units for £ s. d.
lighting, cost is therefore 4,500 at 9½d. . . 178 12 6
Average price per unit is, of course, 9½d.

Tariff Charge No. 2.

Two-part tariff, fixed charge plus 1½d. per unit £ s. d.
Fixed charge based on floor area of mansion . . 140 0 0
Fixed charge based on floor area of stables, etc. 58 17 6
4,500 units at 1½d. 28 2 6

Average price per unit, 12d. £227 0 0

The fixed charge on stables seems rather stiff, so we try it by putting the stables on the flat rate, with this result:

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---|-------|----|----|
| Fixed charge on mansion | 140 | 0 | 0 |
| 4,000 units at 1½d. for mansion | 25 | 0 | 0 |
| 500 units at 9½d. for stables | 19 | 10 | 0 |
| | <hr/> | | |
| | £184 | 16 | 0 |

Average price per unit, 9½d.

On protesting that these figures all seem excessive, the Company offer a different scheme, namely, a sliding fixed charge based on £15 per annum per K.V.A. of measured maximum demand plus 1½d. per unit.

Here we have to estimate the maximum number of lights, etc., on at any time during the year. Clearly this will be at a time of entertainment, and we judge the figure to be 9 K.V.A. We can then work out

Tariff No. 3.

Measured maximum demand.

| Annual charge : | £ | s. | d. |
|-----------------------------|-----|----|----|
| 9 K.V.A. at £15 | 135 | 0 | 0 |
| 4,500 units at 1½d. | 28 | 2 | 6 |

£163 2 6

Average price per unit, 8½d.

This is a shade cheaper, but we must be careful, as, if an electric warmer or kettle is switched on at the time of maximum demand, it may put the demand up another K.V.A., which will cost us £15. It may be argued that the maximum demand is over-estimated at 9 K.V.A., but the Company have us there, as they ask a minimum annual account of £150.

Surely it might pay this owner to install a private generating plant. Let us work it out, using a pair of modern Diesel heavy-oil engines with one storage battery: the battery to supply up to, say, ten lamps, one engine to start automatically when the eleventh light is switched on, and the second engine to start automatically in parallel when the first engine is fully loaded, the reverse process to take place as the lights are gradually switched off. It will be noted that the plant requires no labour except a weekly filling of Diesel oil, and we will allow for the makers to send three times a year to keep it in perfect condition inside and out.

CAPITAL OUTLAY.

| | | | |
|---|-------|----|--------|
| Two 4.5 K.W. (total 9) fully automatic Diesel oil plants and switchgear | £ | s. | d. |
| Erection and builder's work | .. | .. | 75 0 0 |
| | | | <hr/> |
| Storage battery | £625 | 0 | 0 |
| Battery stands | 159 | 12 | 0 |
| Diesel oil storage tank, 1½ tons | 10 | 4 | 0 |
| | 25 | 0 | 0 |
| | <hr/> | | |
| | £819 | 16 | 0 |

ANNUAL COST.

| | | | |
|---|----|----|----|
| Loss of interest on capital, £820 at 3½ per cent. | 28 | 13 | 10 |
| Depreciation— | | | |

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----|----|---|
| Engines, etc., £625 at 7½ per cent. | 46 | 17 | 6 |
| Battery | 15 | 18 | 0 |
| Stands, £10 at 5 per cent... | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| Fuel tank, £25 at 2½ per cent. | 0 | 12 | 6 |

£92 11 10

Running cost:

| | | | |
|---|----|---|---|
| Diesel oil for 4,500 units at 4½d. per gallon | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| Lubricating oil | 3 | 5 | 0 |
| Service charges, three visits per annum .. | 13 | 0 | 0 |

£26 5 0

Add annual charge above

92 11 10

| | | | |
|--|------|----|----|
| Average cost per unit: Capital charges | £118 | 16 | 10 |
| Running charges | 5d. | | |
| | 14d. | | |

Total

6½d. per unit.

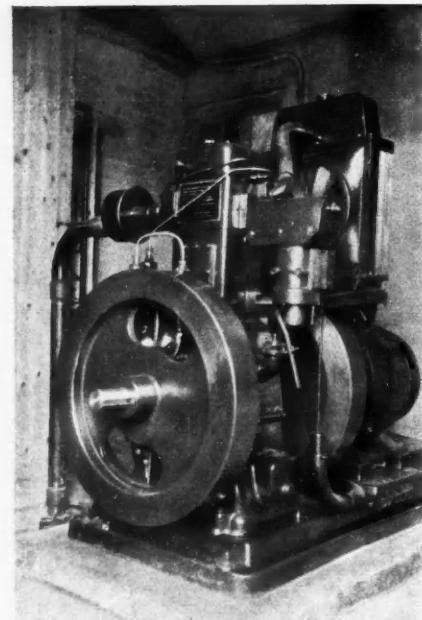
Furthermore, it will be seen that there is little point in being economical with the light, as the actual running cost (excluding the service charge) is only ½d. per unit. You can guarantee that with such an arrangement the house will never be without light, which is by no means the case with the mains. Very many areas broke down during the recent blizzard.

Someone may say that not nearly enough units have been allowed for, but if you double the number of units the advantage is even more definitely in favour of the private plant.

It is always a mistake to judge anything by one example, but the above actual case is sufficient to show that of all the people connected with the electrical industry the consumer has so far received the least attention, and, after all, he (or she) is the most important person of all.

People say: "Ah! but the price will fall as time goes on." We hope it will, but why should it? The central stations even now are wonderfully efficient and sell the current to the local undertakers at very low rates; but the mains are all being put up with borrowed money on which interest must be paid, and this forms by far the greater proportion of the cost per unit.

The cheapest supplies in the country are probably those in the hands of a county council; but such a body has always the rates to fall back on. The L.C.C. has spotted a defect in the scheme. In the past, theatres, etc., had to have an alternative supply in case of failure, and they did this generally by connecting to two different supply companies. This is still the case; but the two companies will in future be supplied from the same central station. This is not good enough for the L.C.C. on behalf of the public—and quite right too.



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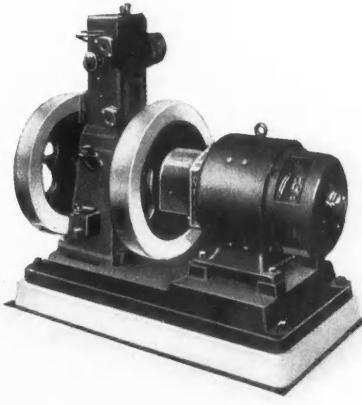
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When will the authorities turn their attention to the consumer, who is in the hands of a monopoly? Unless this aspect of the scheme receives sympathetic attention without delay the Government Scheme will have failed in its object.

As we see it, dividends can now be paid out of further capital issues, but later the Scheme must stand on its own feet: if it

fails to do this it will levy on the local undertakers, and this will make price to the consumer rise instead of fall.

People now take a supply from the mains on what one might almost term "religious" grounds, but this will not continue unless they get a square deal; at the moment it is any sort of shape the local engineer thinks fit.

F. A. SCLATER.

MODERN FIRES

IT may seem untimely to talk about fires, just as we are coming to the end of winter; but, in point of fact, it is particularly appropriate. Spring is the season when renovations and alterations are generally carried out, and new fireplaces may well form part of the changed settings.

There are very few homes in this country where the open fire is not preserved, at least in the room which is most occupied. Other means of warmth—central heating and gas or electric fires—have their especial merits, and it is no detraction from these to say that a good open fire is the pleasantest to sit by. Admittedly, there is nothing so homely, nor so attractive.

For untold years the open fireplace remained unaltered from the cavernous chimney-corners of mediæval times. The eighteenth century brought in the hob grate, elegant in form like all the other accessories of the period, and then came the Victorian adaptations of it; but it was not till the 'eighties that the right principles of a slow-combustion fire were laid down by Teale. Those principles still stand true, though modern designers have given entirely fresh treatment to the fireplace, and have evolved improved methods of fuel consumption. Thus we have interiors of firebrick with canted sides and back, and the fire burning in a sunk bottom or on a cast-iron grid, the surround being of tile, marble, faience or, in the latest forms, chromium-plated or rustless steel. In this modern develop-

and trial under everyday conditions have given us a remarkably efficient appliance in the new type of gas fire with "Beam" radiants. The heat from these is rich in infra-red rays, which penetrate the tissues of the skin; the result being a warmth which is far more pleasant than that given by the older type of gas fire. It goes without saying that these fires, with their admirable means for ventilation and carrying away the products of combustion, are thoroughly hygienic. To talk about a gas fire being



AT YAFFLE HILL, BROADSTONE,
POOLE

These two rooms are in the new house built for Mr. Cyril Carter, from designs by Mr. Edward Maufe. Above is the principal bedroom, with a Bratt Colbran electric fire. On the left is the living-room, with an open fireplace for wood or coal, and a built-in Ferranti electric fire at the farther end

"unhealthy" is merely to misstate the fact.

Electric fires possess the great merit that they need no flue, and consequently can be put in any position just where heat is needed. The present tendency is, however, to build them in as permanent features, like other fireplaces.

When building a new house or altering an old one it is most desirable that, at the outset, there shall be a definite decision as to how the rooms are to be warmed. If there are to be open coal fires, then it must be assumed that they are actually to be used; but all too often one sees fireplaces of this kind installed and gas or electric fires afterwards put in front of them, for reasons of convenience or the saving of labour. The result is never happy. It looks what it is—a compromise or makeshift.

If there is any doubt as to what the means of warmth is to be, then an open fireplace can be provided, and into this the gas or electric fire should be so fitted with a metal back that it fills the entire opening. This produces a trim effect, and in the case of the electric fire it is quite a simple matter to remove the whole as one unit whenever the open fire is required. For the latter, in place of coal, one can use coke, and there are modern grates specially designed to burn it, with a gas burner at the bottom which does away with sticks and paper for lighting. There are even inset units by means of which one can have a coal fire, a gas fire or an electric fire in the same fireplace, without any structural alteration.

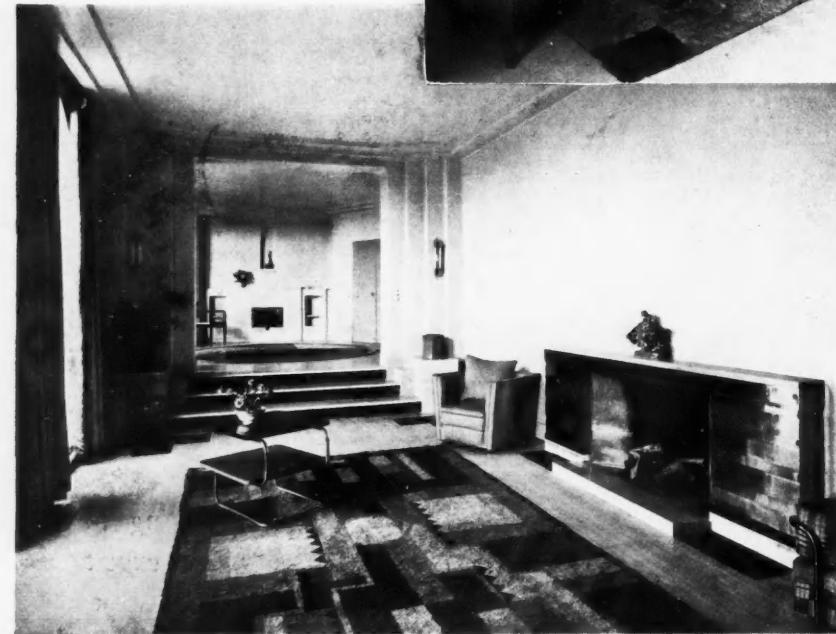
RANDAL PHILLIPS.

ment the chimneypiece is disappearing, even the mantelpiece is going, and the surround to the fire is shorn of its time-honoured mantelshelf. In this form the fireplace is considered appropriate to the up-to-date scheme.

There are fires which endeavour to do a double duty, not only warming the room, but also heating water in a boiler back, which may be connected to two or three radiators. The thing can be done, but it must not be forgotten that this heating of water inevitably involves a loss of heat from the fire in the room itself.

When we turn to the other kinds of fires which modern designers have produced, we find gas and electricity making great advance. Nevertheless, in the design of what may be called the body of these fires, apart from their actual heating elements, there is plenty of scope for improvement. For too long manufacturers have kept to the models associated with coal fires.

Of the convenience and efficiency of both these forms of modern heating there is no question. Laboratory experiment



Old English Fireplaces

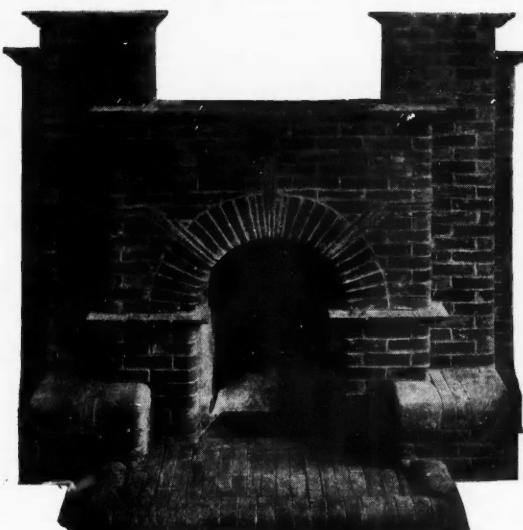


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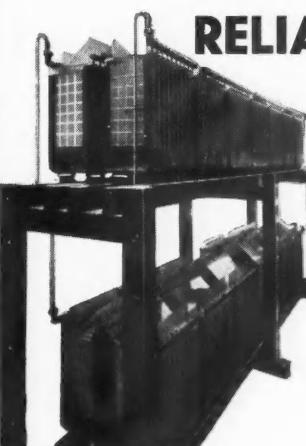
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P.221



NEW CARS TESTED.—LIV: THE "SPEED MODEL" SUNBEAM

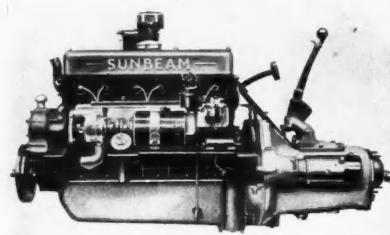
EVERY year when the time comes round I look forward with renewed pleasure to taking out one of the new Sunbeams. Whatever type of vehicle this firm turns out, it is certain to have pleasant and distinctive characteristics, and, in fact, I will guarantee to be able to tell any car that has been produced by their Wolverhampton factory since the War, blindfolded, simply by the feel of the controls.

This is not meant to suggest that Sunbeams do not progress with the times, as each year the new model is in the forefront of progress; but, fundamentally, there is always the same feel about these cars, which, of course, means that their original design was based on sound engineering principles.

The development of the modern sports car has been in the direction of making it nearer, from the driving point of view, to the standard model, while at the same time it retains the performance characteristics of a high-speed vehicle. In the new Speed Model Sunbeam this ideal has been reached to a hitherto unattainable extent. Here is a car with a top gear ratio as high as 4.36 to 1, which is capable of attaining a timed 86 m.p.h. over a quarter of a mile as a maximum, and which is so flexible that it is possible to start from rest on the top gear on anything except a steep gradient, and the car will literally crawl along on this ratio and accelerate away again smoothly and quietly. If really fierce acceleration is required, the second and third ratios can be brought into play; and, in fact, from rest to some 85 m.p.h. this is one of the most delightful vehicles which I have ever driven.

PERFORMANCE

On the top gear of 4.36 to 1, 10 to 30 m.p.h. requires 9secs., while on the second gear of 9.7 to 1 just over 5secs. is required for the same acceleration, and slightly over 7secs. on the third gear of 6.38 to 1. Bottom gear has a ratio of 17.5 to 1, and is only really necessary in an emergency. On my level quarter-mile I clocked 10 2-5secs., which works out at a speed of 86.54 m.p.h. At this speed the speedometer was showing just under 90 m.p.h., and I exceeded this speed several times during the test. Going through the gears, it was possible to attain a speed of 50 m.p.h. from a standing start in just over 16secs., while the maximum on third gear



Six cylinders.
75mm. bore by 110mm. stroke.
Capacity, 2,916 c.c.
£21 tax.
Overhead valves (push rods).
Down-draught carburettor.
Coil ignition.
Four-speed gear box (right-hand lever).
Close coupled saloon, £745.

is round about 65 m.p.h. The brakes are operated on the Lockheed hydraulic principle and work in large drums. They are extremely smooth in action, and powerful enough even for a car with this excellent performance.

ROAD HOLDING

This is extremely good. Designers of chassis always find it difficult to get the suspension really right in this type of car with its high performance. If the springing is safe and firm round about the 80 m.p.h. mark it will be found to be rough when the car is being driven slowly, and should this be remedied then the behaviour of the car at high speeds is affected. In the case of the Speed Model Sunbeam, however, a beautiful balance has been achieved, and while the vehicle will glide like the most luxurious touring car at low speeds, it inspires the driver with complete confidence at its maximum.

GENERAL POINTS OF DESIGN

The design of the engine follows proved Sunbeam practice. The six-cylinder unit is neat, and everything is easily accessible. The overhead valves and rockers can be reached by removing the neat valve cover; while the distributor is mounted in an accessible position. The down-draught carburettor is above the engine, which makes for accessibility; while the auxiliaries are driven on one side of the engine by a common shaft. So far as chassis lubrication is concerned, grouped nipples have been provided to help the owner-driver.

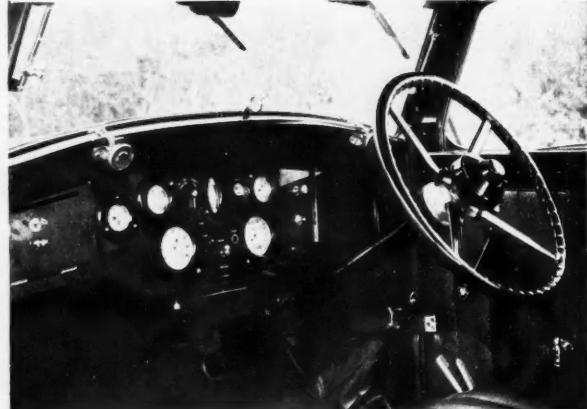
COACHWORK

The close-coupled saloon body on the Sunbeam is a very interesting piece of work. As will be seen from the illustration, it has exceptionally fine lines, while at the same time it provides ample room. In a car of this type one does not expect a great deal of room in the back seat, but this body is surprisingly roomy. Large wells are provided in the floor to allow more leg room in the rear, and the seat itself is 20ins. deep. The back seat is 45½ins. wide between the arm rests, while above the arm rests it is 48ins. wide.

This amount of room is all provided on a wheelbase of only 10ft., while the track is just under 4ft. 8ins.

The ground clearance is 6ins., and the over-all length 13ft. 8ins., while the over-all width is 5ft. 10ins.

The finish of the coachwork of this Sunbeam is also extremely good, the firm making their own bodies in the factory at Wolverhampton. The doors are wide and make entrance easy; while safety glass is fitted throughout on all models.



THE LAY-OUT OF THE INSTRUMENT PANEL AND CONTROLS IS NEAT

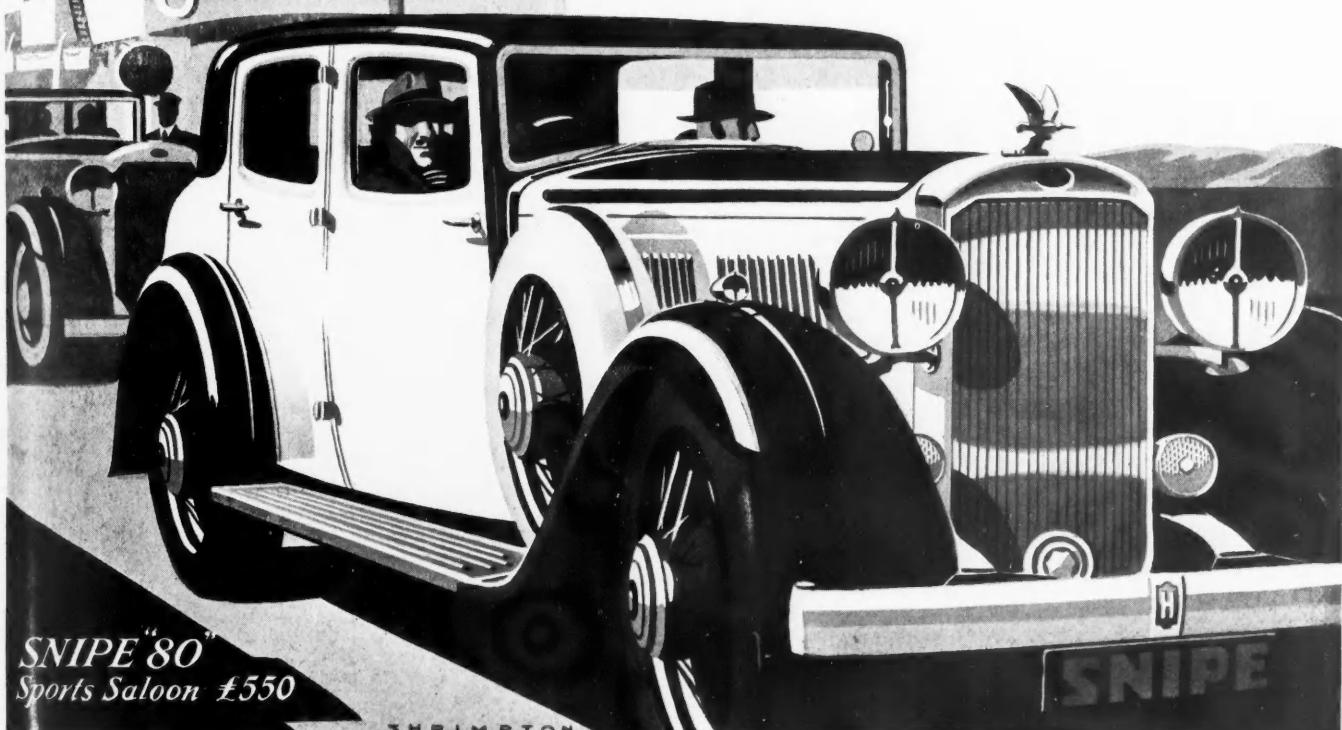


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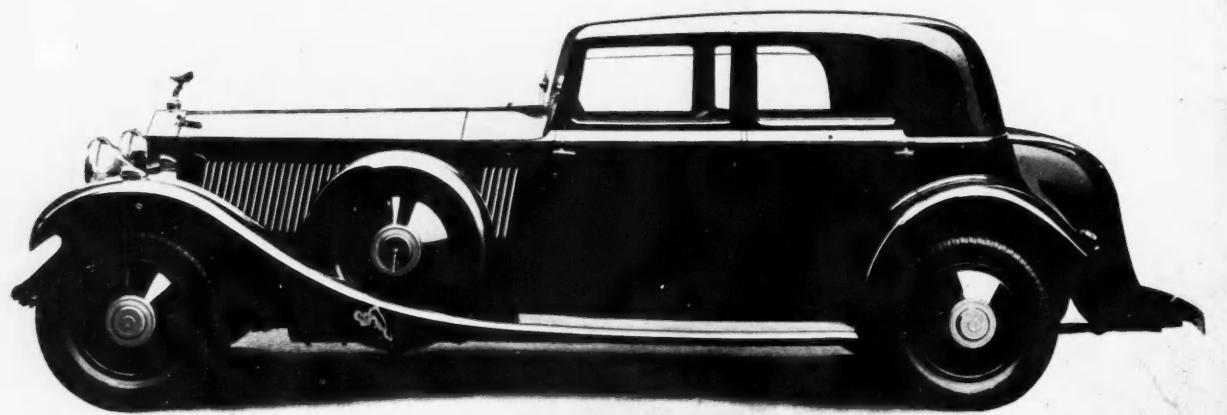


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MODERN COACHWORK



A BARKER SALOON LIMOUSINE ON A 40/50 H.P. CONTINENTAL ROLLS-ROYCE CHASSIS
It has no division, and is cellulosed black, the mouldings being in stainless steel, while the head is lined with fawn cloth

We illustrate four examples of modern coachwork which show the trend of design in this direction. Coach-builders to-day are concentrating on making the lines of the whole vehicle as smooth as possible so as to lessen wind resistance, which is becoming increasingly important as speeds increase. In addition, a properly streamlined body is far more pleasant to ride in, as it reduces the noise of the wind round the coachwork to a considerable extent and also keeps it very much cleaner. In addition, a body with smooth flowing lines and without sudden corners or pockets is far easiest to clean.

The chassis designer has contributed considerably towards the possible comfort of modern coachwork. A low frame makes it possible for the coachbuilder to keep the total height of the vehicle down, thus contributing to safety without cramping the occupants. Further, much attention has been given to making the frame more rigid by cross-bracing it or employing X-shaped cross-members. If the frame is weak and is continually flexing, the coachwork has to take many of the strains which ought to have been taken by the chassis itself, and noise is certain to develop, and, in the worst cases, actual cracks.

Upholstery has been much improved, and there are now very few firms which do not use safety glass, such as Triplex, on all windows and on division lights. Occasional seats have been much improved

in design, while folding arm rests in the back seat are now a very general fitment. Attention has also been given to the facilities for carrying luggage, as the examples we give show.

ANTI-DAZZLE

THE Royal Automobile Club have now considered the draft regulations which have been issued by the Minister of Transport on the subject of lights on road vehicles, and have some interesting comments to make.

They point out that the new regulations follow fairly closely those issued in 1931, and in certain details are an improvement on them, particularly in the fact that the demand in the old regulations that the lamps should not dazzle an eye at a greater height than 2ft. 6ins. from the ground has been altered to limit dazzle effect up to 3ft. 6ins. from the ground.

They state at the outset that, in view of the developments that have taken place in the last two years, the Club does not approve of anti-dazzle regulations being issued.

The reason for this view is a fundamental one, and is that the position in regard to dazzling head lamps has so changed

REGULATIONS

during the last two years that there is no necessity to compel the fitting or use of anti-dazzle devices.

In reviewing the position for the past ten years, the Club point out that at the beginning of that period it was realised that the dazzle from head lights was dangerous and inconvenient. On the other hand, attempts by other countries to deal with the position by regulation in every case proved futile, and the Club therefore embarked on a policy that would give every facility to the development of new designs and which would also keep the public and those officials whose duty it is to watch such a situation fully informed as to such development.

Towards this end the Club held numerous public demonstrations in Richmond Park. The educative value of these demonstrations is admitted, and it can be said with reason that the Ministry of Transport wisely did not attempt to issue regulations while the matter of combating



A HOOPER ENCLOSED LIMOUSINE ON A PHANTOM II ROLLS-ROYCE CHASSIS WHICH WAS BUILT FOR THE AMSTERDAM MOTOR SHOW

The body is finished black with a thin white picking-out line

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"You mean?"

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"I see—and what about being comfy and easy to drive?"

"Well, you can just lounge in the front seats, and if that's not enough, you can have in most models an arm-rest on each side of you if you are sitting in the rear seats. And do you know what zinc interleaved springs are? They never get stiff—most Austins have them, too. As for steering—why Dolly could drive it, if I'd let her—and she's only twelve."

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dazzle was still in an incomplete stage of development.

This development has clearly progressed in the main along the lines of the dipping head light. Within this term of "dipping head light" we must include any method—optical, electrical, or mechanical—of lowering the main dazzling beam of the head light.

This was realised in the draft regulations issued in 1931, where the fundamental requirement of the dipping beam was laid down.

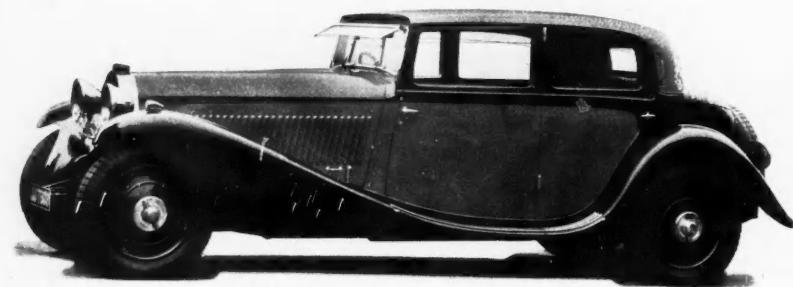
Practice having shown, in the first place, that this was not only a sane line of development, but was also being publicly adopted, the Club could not raise any basic objections to these 1931 regulations, although considerable doubt was felt as to the necessity, even then, of the issue of any regulations.

It is probable, however, that the draft regulations issued by the Ministry in 1931 had played an important part in guiding thought and development since that time.

Two years have now elapsed, and the Club consider that it is clear that the car user has become convinced that, in his own interests, an anti-dazzle device is necessary.

The result of this conviction is reflected in products turned out by the automobile manufacturer. The anti-dazzle device is no longer thought of as an accessory to be purchased after the car and fitted by the owner; it has become a standardised part of the equipment, and is supplied not as an extra, but as a portion of the car included in the purchase price. Almost without exception, cars, both expensive and inexpensive, now offered on the British market are fitted, as part of their standard equipment, with some form of anti-dazzle device. Moreover, investigation shows that the overwhelming majority of the devices thus fitted are of the dipping beam character.

The Club's view, therefore, "is emphatically that the progress of events has



A FIVE LITRE BUGATTI WITH COACHWORK BY FREESTONE AND WEBB SUPPLIED BY GORDON WATNEY TO MR. VICTOR ROTHSCHILD.

shown that not only are the cars of to-day fitted with anti-dazzle devices, without being required by regulation to do so, but they are actually in the main fitted with the type of device which it is sought to render obligatory by Regulation. The Regulations as drafted—so far as the character and operation of the device is concerned—go no further than what is common practice to-day. Such Regulations therefore clearly would be redundant and would serve no useful purpose."

Further, they point out that it is clear that Draft Regulation No. 2, which specified that the beam shall be capable of being depressed, cannot stand without Draft Regulation No. 6, which demands that the beam shall be so depressed when approaching another vehicle. They believe that it is clearly useless to demand that a vehicle should be equipped with an anti-dazzle device unless it is also demanded that such device shall be used in appropriate circumstances.

In the present unregulated state, the use of the dipping device is left to the discretion of the driver. This is wise, since it is clear that circumstances may

suddenly arise when one car is meeting another, where to permit the lamps to give their full power may be safer than to dip them.

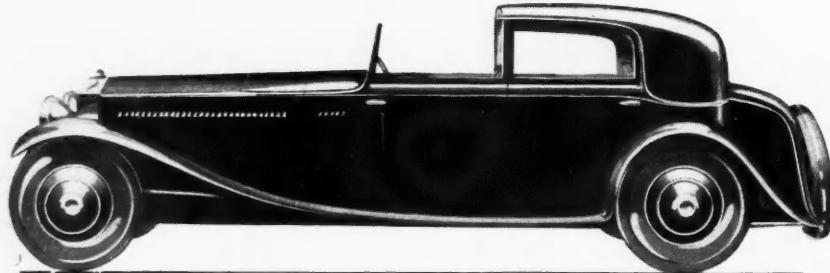
The Club is aware that a certain number of accidents have been attributed to the driver of a car being temporarily blinded by the head lamps of an oncoming car, but it is considered that the evidential value of the allegation is very doubtful. On the other hand, a regulation demanding the compulsory reduction of the light given by a driver's head lamps when approaching another car might be cited with reason in explanation of an accident.

The Club therefore asserts that not only are these regulations unnecessary and that the purpose sought to be achieved by them is already common practice, but further, that the draft regulation making dipping compulsory, regardless of the circumstances, may lead to increased danger.

With regard to the proposal for the inclusion of any anti-dazzle regulation in the Highway Code of this type, they also think it would be dangerous.

With regard to the recommendation that side lamps should not be fitted with bulbs of more than six watts capacity, the Club would see no objection to this restriction, but they think there would be great difficulty in enforcing it, owing to the enormous quantity of foreign bulbs not marked now being imported into this country, so that they do not think such a draft regulation would be enforceable in practice.

It is thought that the four main points dealt with in the draft regulations—namely the maximum power of the lamps, the control of the dazzling beam of the lamps, the circumstances in which such control should be exercised, and the undesirability of a stationary car standing with head lamps alight—might form the subject of additions to the Highway Code.



A PHANTOM II ROLLS-ROYCE SUPPLIED BY JACK BARCLAY, LTD.
Fitted with a Sedanca de Ville body by H. J. Mulliner, Ltd.

MOTORING TO HOUNDS

By LADY APSLEY

MOST mounted members of the Hunt despise people who follow hounds in cars—or, rather, despise them if they think about them at all. But such is life, that anyone may be glad some day of the opportunity offered them by the iron horse. Undoubtedly, the ideal conveyance for driving to hounds is a good pony and trap; but in these days a pony and trap has become a luxury which is neither safe nor convenient.

The objection to cars out hunting really is the drivers themselves. They are often objectionable people—the kind who on a golf links do not replace divots, who leave your best tennis racket on the wet grass, and try the lake before the ice is ready for skating—spoiling other people's enjoyment through carelessness and ignorance. It is hard when one can no longer ride a horse to be classed with such. The

trouble is that the majority of car people know little or nothing about real hunting. Their main purpose for being out is to view foxes—whether the hunted one, or another, it matters not, so long as they can bellow in its face—with disastrous results to real sport and enmity between the mounted field and anyone in cars. In well rodded "popular" countries this menace becomes yearly more serious; the situation being further complicated by the fact that among the offenders are subscribers, farmers, small-holders or their families, who have a genuine and understandable gr evance if prevented from following hounds in a car through inability—whether from age, infirmity, or poverty—to follow by other means.

On a good scenting day it is unlikely that cars cause trouble—in the same way that "over riders" are seldom seen in the vicinity of hounds on that occasion. But

they make a moderate day into a bad one, or a bad day ten times worse.

However, it is possible to drive a car in such a way as not to spoil sport. You do not surround coverts or rush off directly a fox is hollered away; but wait till hounds have been blown out of covert, watching, if you can, how they fly to the huntsman; then you go—but, instead of driving full tilt to "cut them off," you follow to see the hunt, and it can be an interesting and exciting drive. A knowledge of the country and the lines foxes take is, of course, useful, but it is not essential. With a little luck one can see a lot of the day's sport.

The rules are: (1) keep on the downwind side; (2) take the high ground when the alternative offers; (3) stop often to prospect; (4) keep quiet; and (5) always listen before going on. You must never try to get ahead of hounds. Always drive



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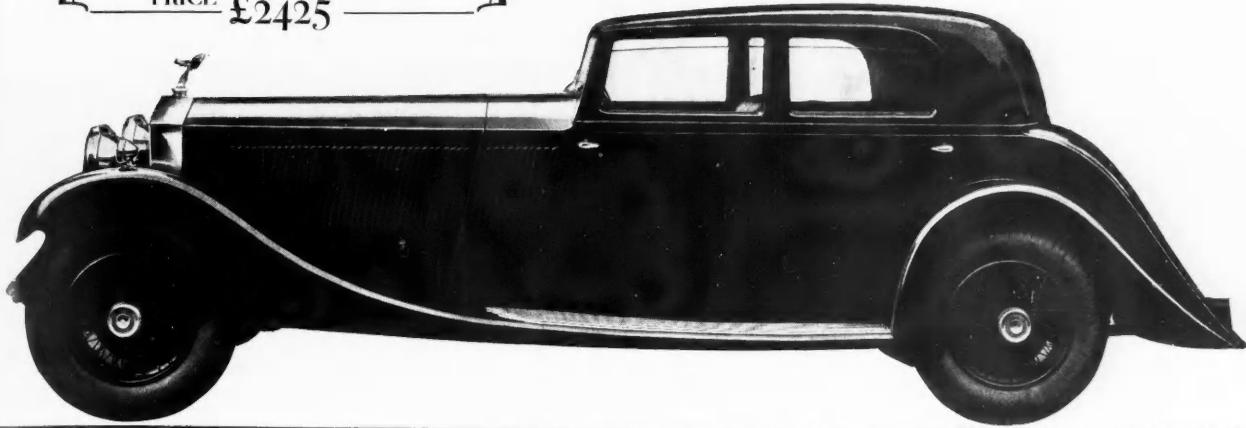
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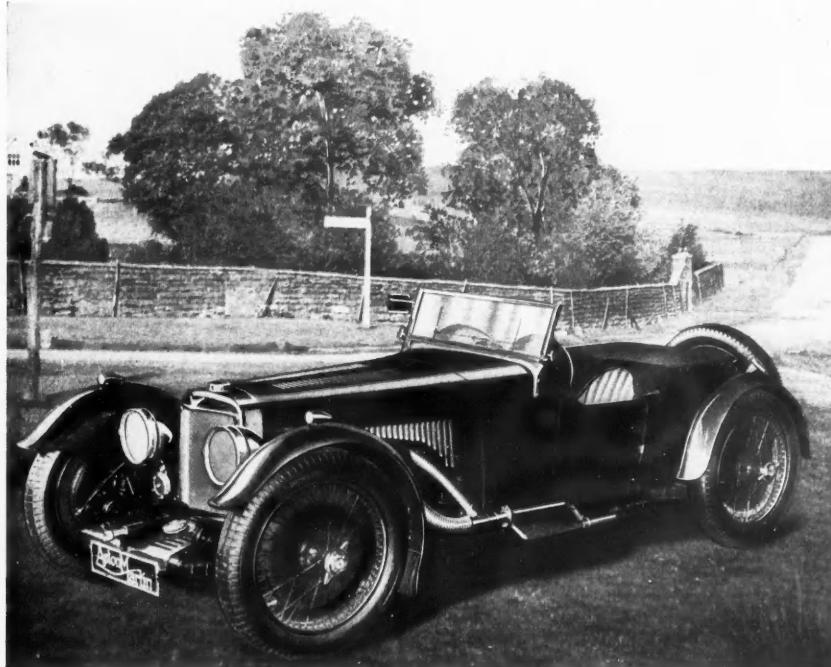
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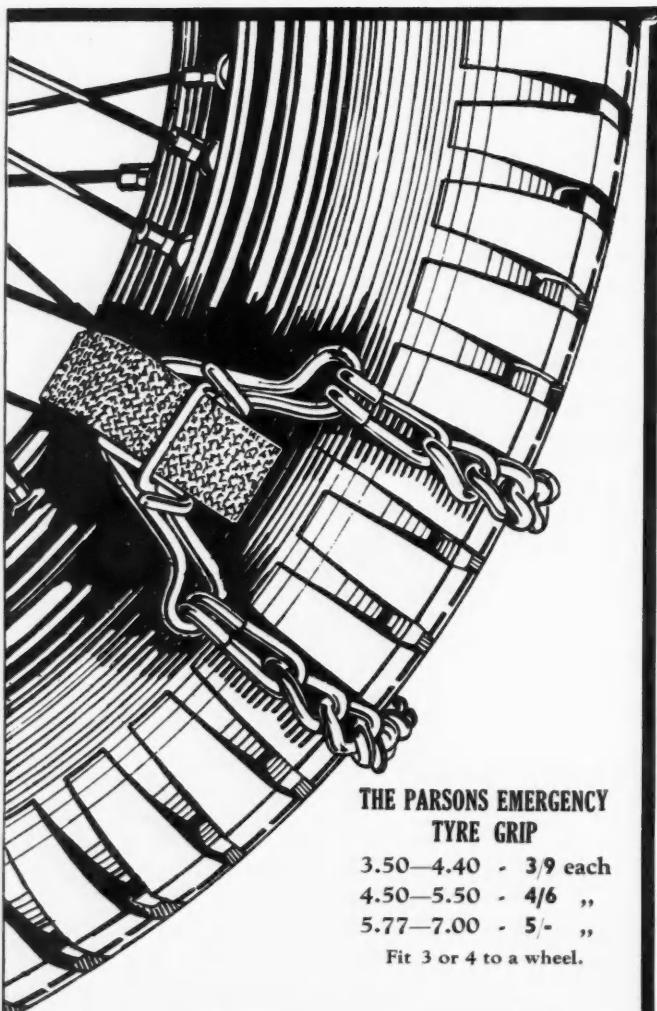
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wide on the flanks down-wind—you will be able to hear so much better—as does the fox, which is one reason why he invariably, sooner or later, turns down-wind himself.

The essentials are—a good map, giving the by-ways and lanes, and a pair of field-glasses. An open car is the best to see out of. You must be able to reverse quickly and easily, you must also switch off when standing, as the engine prevents people hearing, fouls the air (petrol fumes may get into hounds' noses), and disturbs horses. Always pull up well into the side of a road (but not on the only bit of grass for horses to pass). Never drive too close to horses, particularly a groom riding one horse and leading another on the way to the meet, when horses are fresh and his fingers may be cold; give the utmost room you can, and slow right down invariably. Never, I pray you, when hounds are running, all get out and festoon the gates, gaps and hedgerows—a fox does not seem to fear a waiting car half so much as humans on foot. (In the same way, judging by cinema films, lions in Africa do not mind cars coming close up to them.)

If you see a fox, keep still. Resist pointing a finger. Describe his position to your companions. Watch carefully the direction he is going and mark the exact spot where you last saw him, wait a second or two, and then holler—if you think by so doing you can help sport. But if hounds are running well at the time, it is far better to keep quiet. Raising the hat instead of making a noise is the time-honoured tradition which has accounted for many a mask. It is little use hollering up-wind—only the fox will hear you; get someone to take a message to the huntsman and remain yourself to point out the right spot and answer the questions, "Which way did he go?" and "How long ago was it?"

There is no need to lay stress on being sure that it was a fox you saw. Unless you have seen that brush you had better not give tongue; you can content yourself by telling someone who may tell someone else, who may tell the second horseman, who may tell the first whipper-in, who may tell the huntsman, "A party in that car thinks they have seen a fox!" The great man may look up and glance your way. Should he chance to see a motley group, clad accordingly, chattering like mad, scarfs waving, coats blowing, and a sports saloon with engine running, he will go on with what he is doing, in the opposite direction. But should he see otherwise, he may cast round in your direction, for lack of anything better to do. And should you by chance have been right, he will, of course, take the credit for a brilliant case of "holding 'em on" and forget about you on the spot; but should you happen to do the same thing again, his keen eyes will recognise your car, and he may even one day look towards you! No, do not then be swollen with conceit—you have a long way to go before the huntsman of even a small provincial pack can recognise you as anything but a nuisance—a damned motorist—between the time of leaving the meet and going home. If, however, you can one day contrive to let him know that you have really seen his *hunted* fox without giving the fact away to all and sundry, you will be on the way to becoming his firm friend, and he will repay you a hundredfold by a little inside information as to draws, result of digging operations, "surprises," etc. You may then hug yourself and air your superiority among your fellow motorists—if you are that sort; or, more wisely, "lay low and say nuffing." Anyhow, before handing yourself the brush, as it were, you must be quite sure that you recognise a *hunted* fox when you see one! It is really a worse crime to get hounds off their *hunted* fox to a fresh one, than to holler a hare on a blank day! Only experience will teach you the difference. Therefore, when you view a fox, do not "count ten," as Mr. Jorrocks used to do before hollering, but employ the time in noting if his brush is dragging on the ground, if his tongue is out, and whether he looks dark in colour (from mud and water). If you see none of these things, and note "his white tag" and "light colour," as do so many other motorists, you may feel fairly confident that this is a fresh fox and act accordingly—holler once or twice if the hounds are *not* running at the time, or get the information taken to the huntsman as quickly as possible.

You are now becoming wily, but be careful that you do not contract the pernicious habit of arranging your car on the exact spot that you know from experience a fox is likely to cross, and foxes being such creatures of habit, this is often too easy to do. I have seen people race a fox to such a spot and, as he comes into view, start bellowing and blaring motor horns, with the not surprising result that a shy animal such as a fox turns away from his point. This might not matter, as he probably makes it farther on; but the trouble is that, when a fox is "headed" like this, for some intangible reason scenting conditions alter. Possibly, a startled fox closes his mouth or holds his breath (some authorities believe that "scent" comes largely from the breath of a running fox)—but anyhow, when a fox has turned sharply, hounds are only too likely to over-run the line or "flush on," especially when they have barely settled down to hunt. Cars and motor cycles with engines running do not help matters, nor do the excited offenders on the road shouting to the huntsman and pointing in all directions. If scent is poor, hounds' heads will soon be up, and as the fox is sure to have turned again when out of sight of the "hollerers"—an unnecessary "check" is the inevitable result, so exasperating to huntsman and field, and so bad for hounds. Or, perhaps he goes to ground in a drain, whence it will take the combined efforts of the country-side the better part of a short winter's day to eject him; in addition, probably giving away the well concealed family residence



THE 40/50 H.P.

ROLLS-ROYCE

PHANTOM II

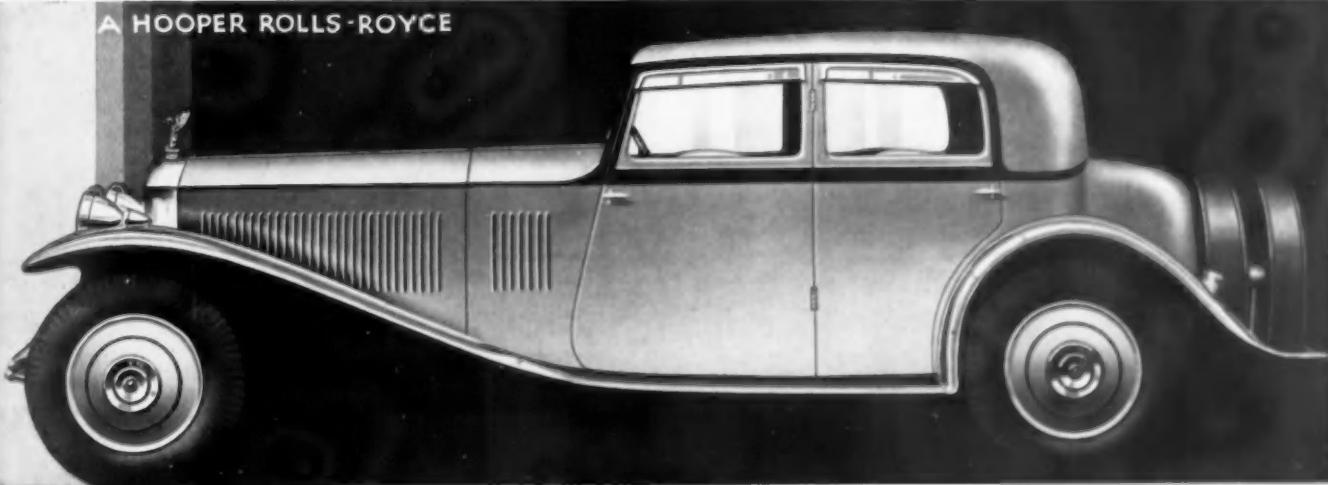
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H.M. The Emperor of Japan H.M. The King of Egypt



Hooper and Co.
(Coachbuilders Ltd.)

54 St. James's Street Piccadilly
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to a surprised small-holder and all the "bad hats" of the neighbourhood. No doubt you will gain the reputation of being a "knowing 'un" among your peers—a sorry collection of bicycles and saloon cars; but is it worth while? No; it would really be better if, knowing what you know, you did something—stopped your engine, made a poggie of turning round, and thus delayed the other equally "knowing" one from charging along to that spot!

Car people must appreciate the difference between the science of fox hunting and a vermin-killing expedition in which

everyone takes a hand and there is no law for the hunted. Fox hunting has developed from the ancient sport of "Venerie"—the chasing of a wild animal "par force," or in his native haunts, *i.e.*, wheresoever he wishes to go. The interesting part is to watch hounds hunt by scent alone and kill their own fox; hollers, cat-calls, etc., only distract them and get their heads up. Nose, drive and pace are the criterions of excellence in a pack of hounds—to which an appreciative "follower" can add the further qualities of good cry, quickness, looks, fitness, and evidence of good breeding.

The huntsman is the only one who can help them in the field, and the science lies in his methods of doing so up till the time he handles his beaten fox.

Lastly are one or two delicate observations which would help the motor-car follower of hounds to find more favour:

(1) If each motorist would charge himself a "cap" a day and send it to the Honorary Secretary he would probably find himself welcomed by that person, and others.

(2) Why should not followers by car remember a Christmas-box for the Hunt servants, as does the horse'd man and woman?

(3) A motorist can "walk" puppies as well as another: in some Hunts the offer of a dry-lying box in the garage, well found, with plenty of exercise, would be leapt at by the M.F.H., though you wear no "button" and buy no corn.

Anyhow, if you do something for the Hunt as a motorist, in the long grey winter days you may with a clear conscience take your car and see what you can of the Sport of Hunting the Fox; and if you can enjoy the sight of a level pack of hounds, wheeling as one, each one hunting, keeping together, without stragglers, or watch them puzzling out a stale line, carrying the line through foil of sheep and cattle, making good on ploughland, casting themselves over the brook, drawing the gorse on the hillside—of a few such episodes a pleasurable day is made for those who cannot ride to hunt. And if you can enjoy the splash of jade on grey green grass, the silvery gleam of winter sunshine, the wet smell of a good scenting day, the white threads of deep ditches alongside the black fences of the patterned carpet of the Vale—you will perhaps find content when the music of hounds and horn and galloping hoofs passes beyond your ken, above the din of the other cars turning round.



A HUNTSMAN HOLDING UP CARS TILL HOUNDS HAVE GONE AWAY
A scene with the Belvoir

The highest speed
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To meet the demands of the small car owner, as well as the large, the H-D 3cwt. Trailer is ideal. For holidays, touring or camping it solves at once all luggage transport problems. To the country resident it is indispensable as a station, shopping, or shooting tender. H-D Trailers are built with all the care and accuracy of a motor car, and will give years of trouble-free service. Larger models also available to suit all purposes.

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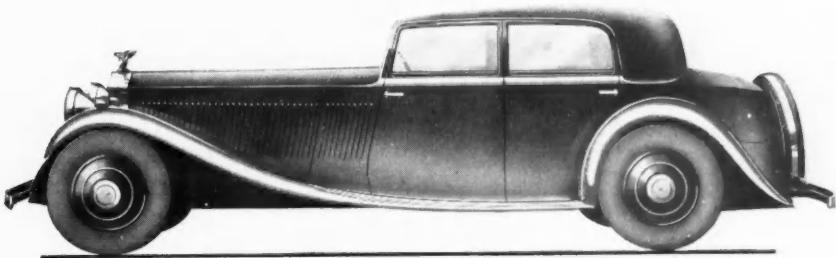
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YOU CAN BE SURE OF SHELL

A NEW SERVICE FOR MOTORISTS

TOWARDS the commencement of this month a new service for motorists came into operation throughout the country, which should do much to make life easier for the owner-driver and also help to keep cars in much better condition.

Messrs. C. C. Wakefield and Co., Limited, the manufacturers of Castrol, have had their engineers and organisers working quietly for the past few months to carry out an ambitious scheme to make motoring cheaper and easier for everybody, with the result that they have now equipped over 1,000 mechanised service stations in this country.

The motorist need no longer be a slave to the grease gun, as he can get all the care and attention that his car requires with very little trouble. In the past we have been behind America in this respect, chiefly owing to the lack of facilities.

Now, however, any motorist can drive up to any garage bearing the Castrol Lubrquipment Service sign, fill up a job card, get a quotation for the servicing which the Castrol experts find to be necessary, and wait while it is done.

The lubricators used work at a pressure of from 2,000lb. to 10,000lb. per square inch, and force grease into the chassis nipples and steering gear; while special machines will inject into the engine, gear box and back axle the grade of oil recommended by the car manufacturer. The springs are also fed with penetrating oil by a high-power sprayer.

As many as eight different kinds of lubricant may be required for a single car, and all will be available at a garage with this service sign.

When the job is completed, particulars of it, with the date and the official stamp of the service station, will be entered in a Castrol Certified Log Book, which will be handed to the motorist to keep as a record of lubrication and proof to the

eventual prospective purchaser that the car has been well cared for.

There should be no difficulty in finding one of these Castrol Lubrquipment Stations, for no restrictions are put on numbers in any given area, and every day should bring new ones into operation.

NON-SKID CHAINS

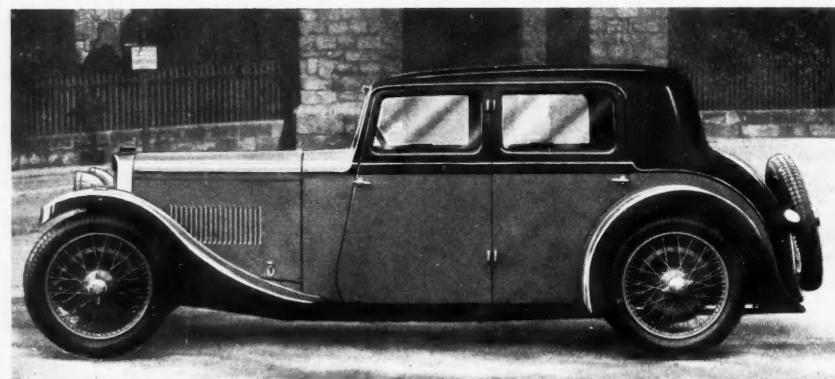
CHAINS for road wheels suggest conditions of ice and snow, and, of course, they are practically a necessity when roads are ice-bound. They are, however, extremely useful, particularly to the country motorist, under all sorts of other conditions. A set of Parsons' chains will prove their use again and again on all sorts of surfaces. When going to the meet, for instance, soft ground is frequently encountered, and a set of Parsons' chains will deal with any surface, no matter how wet, and will save much time and trouble. There are frequent occasions when chains will prove their worth at some function

where cars have to be parked on wet and boggy ground; while they are also of use about the farm or on the estate.

Many people have experienced difficult parking conditions when attending Point-to-Point meetings, ordinary race meetings and other sporting events. They may arrive in fine weather, but shortly it will start to rain, and by the time they go to extricate their cars from the park the ground is wet and sodden and the cars cannot be moved. A set of Parsons' chains always carried on the car will obviate this difficulty.

A MOTORIST'S LIGHTER

THE petrol lighter is now in general use, but motorists often have difficulty in getting a light with one of these useful instruments in a high wind. The Dunhill stormproof Lighter is guaranteed to keep alight in a 40 m.p.h. wind, while it can be operated with one hand and will hold a considerable amount of petrol. The shield has been specially designed to protect the flame under the worst possible conditions.



AN ASTON MARTIN SALOON ON THE LONG TOURING CHASSIS



ROVER

the Car with Controlled Free Wheeling

To quality craftsmanship in every detail add every modern device for carefree and effortless motoring and you have your 1933 Free Wheel ROVER.

CLUTCHLESS GEAR CHANGE

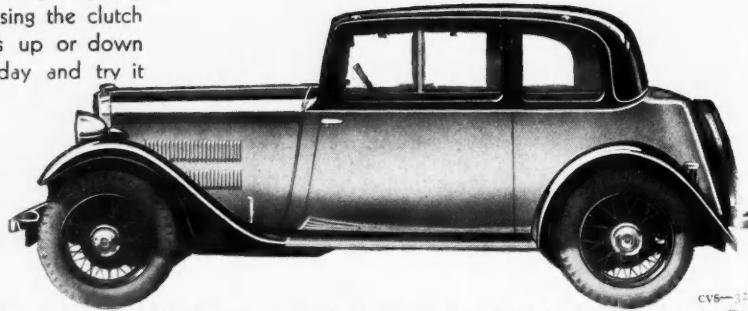
Clutchless Gear Changing is just one of the many simple quality attributes of the new Free Wheel Rovers. Without using the clutch a child could not help making perfect gear changes up or down at any speed. Get in touch with your dealer to-day and try it for yourself.

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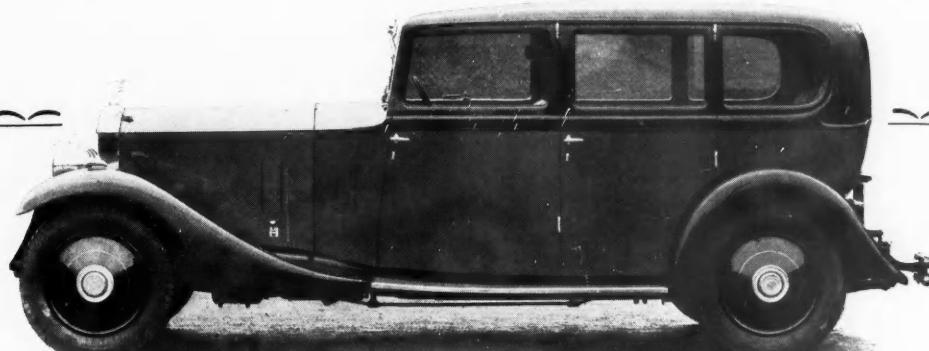
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CVS-32



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BEAUTY OF LINE

F. & W. Coachcraft stands apart from the commonplace—it possesses a distinction of line and finish that symbolises the most superb craftsmanship. Every detail is carefully studied to harmonise with the perfect whole.



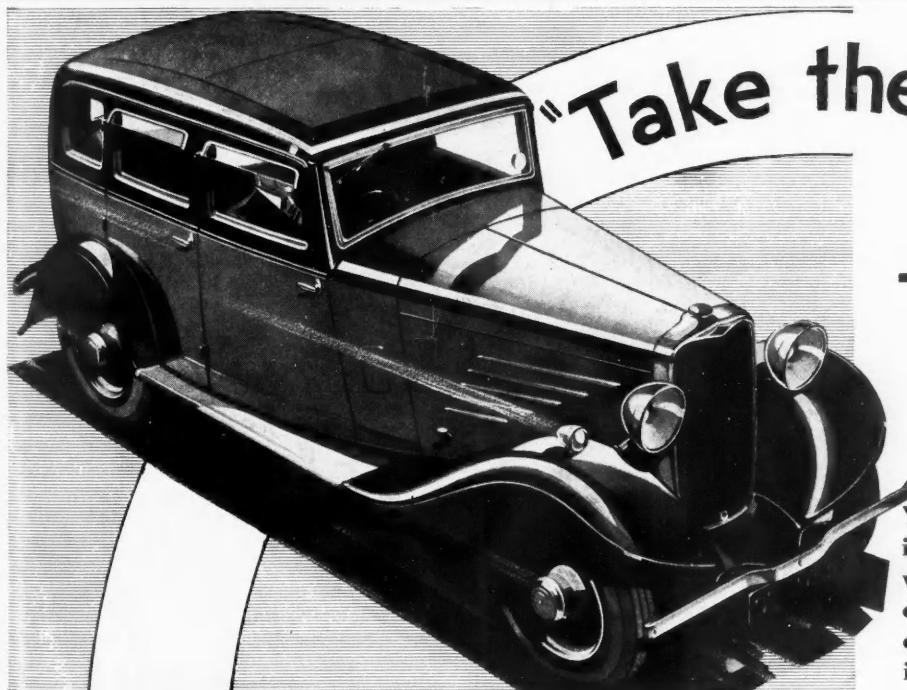
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You might expect, in families owning a couple of cars, that both would be used as often as each other. Not a bit of it! When one of the cars is a new Singer "12," it always comes in for the lion's share. It's such a handy car; roomy—easy to drive—just right for so many occasions. It's so utterly reliable, too—never insisting on a rest while it has things "done to it." Think twice if you've another car in mind, remembering that this new Singer "12" is the most useful car you can have.

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THE NEW TRIUMPH TEN

AN interesting addition to the small car range is the Triumph Ten which has just been introduced. This car is rated at 9.8 h.p., and has four cylinders with a bore of 63mm. and a stroke of 90mm., giving it a capacity of 1,122 c.c. The wheelbase is 8ft. and the track 3ft. 9ins., while the over-all length is 12ft. 6ins. The price with saloon body is £225.

The four-speed gear box has a neat, stiff lever centrally mounted with a high ratio third of 8.05 to 1. The brakes operate on the Lockheed system, but they have extra large drums, which are 12ins. in diameter. The emergency or parking brake consists of expanding shoes in a drum at the rear of the gear box operated by a lever centrally placed on the right of the gear lever.

The convenience of the owner with regard to the duties of maintenance has been well studied in this car. While grease gun chassis lubrication has been retained at points where the nipples might be difficult to reach, lengths of piping have been introduced and the nipple mounted in a position where it is easy of access.

Another good feature is the provision of a permanent jacking system on the hydraulic principle.

The coachwork on this car is particularly interesting. The Ten has a four-door six-light saloon which is of considerable size. The front seats are of the armchair type, which are separate and instantly adjustable for reach; while real leather is used for the covering of the upholstery.

The rear seats have been designed with the idea of giving the maximum of comfort, and they are fitted with pneumatic upholstery. Extra width for elbow room is also obtained by recessing the wide arm rests into the body sides, while there is

also a folding centre arm rest. The single panel wind-screen is provided with a twin wiper driven from a single motor so placed as not to obstruct the view of the driver.

A USEFUL TRAILER

As warmer weather approaches, many private motorists begin to think of holiday requirements. Though the modern car is well equipped so far as luggage accommodation is concerned, it is often useful, particularly when the family is large, to take a trailer behind the car, which gives tremendous extra accommodation without detracting much from the performance of the vehicle.

H.D. Trailers, made by the H.D. Car Hire Company of Coventry, are the ideal thing in this respect, and there are several

well constructed models among their productions from which the private motorist can choose.

MAIDSTONE MOTOR SHOW

THE spring exhibition of cars held annually by Rootes, Limited, at Maidstone, is always a popular attraction for the south country motorist. This year's exhibition opens on Monday and will be more attractive than usual, and all the products of the Humber-Hillman-Commer Combine will be on view, with the addition of other makes.

Commercial vehicle buyers should be particularly intrigued by the latest developments in the Commer programme, and, as usual, no charge is made for admission, and the extensive premises of the Ley Engineering Works are being used.



A SPEED TWENTY ALVIS SALOON WITH COACHWORK BY VANDEN PLAS (ENGLAND) 1923, LTD.

This car is being driven by the owner, Mr. Charles Follett, in the R.A.C. Rally

WITH COBBETT IN WILTSHIRE

WILTSHIRE has altered little in a hundred years. If we except what the Great Western Railway has done for Swindon and what the War Office has done for parts of Salisbury Plain, and if we allow for one or two industries which have sprung up in the market towns—engineering works at Westbury, rubber works at Bradford-on-Avon and Melksham—there have been singularly few changes since Cobbett rode over the downs to discover his “land of promise” in the late summer of 1826. Steering across the upland country, in making for Milton in the Pewsey Vale, he stopped to ask a shepherd the way. “At the end of about a mile, from the top of a very high part of the down, with a steep slope towards the valley, I first saw this *Valley of Avon*; and a most beautiful sight it was! Villages, hamlets, large farms, towers, steeples, fields, meadows, and very fine timber trees scattered all over the valley. . . . Great as my expectations had been, they were more than fulfilled.” So for half an hour he sat on his horse relishing the landscape, in spite of the fact (which he is careful to record) that he had not yet breakfasted.

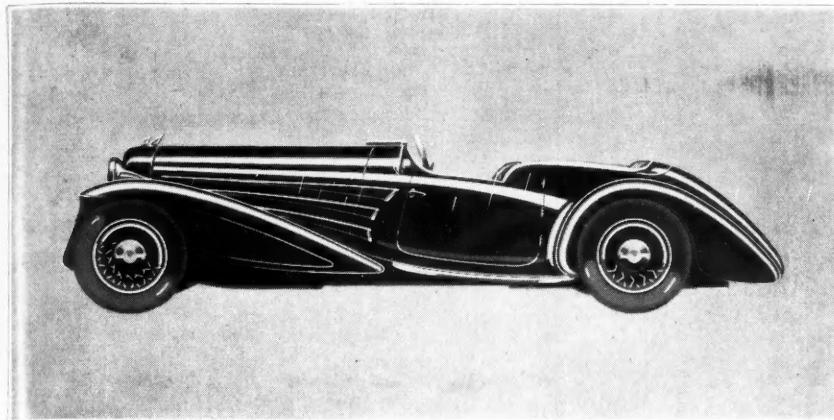
That view is certainly the same to-day, and so are most of the scenes that Cobbett describes, for Wiltshire continues to remain—and long may it continue—the most obstinately agricultural of all the southern counties. If we follow him down the narrow Avon valley from Pewsey to Salisbury, or up the broad Wey valley from Salisbury to Heytesbury, we shall see the same sort of pictures as roused him to such intoxicated enthusiasm. There may not be so many “banging wheat-ricks” in the stack-yards—at one farm he thought he counted twenty-seven “of one sort and another”—but “the shape of the thing,” as he calls it, is not a whit altered. First the downs on each side, “very lofty and steep in some places, and sloping miles back in other places.” These for the sheep. Then “from the edge of the downs begin capital arable fields generally of very great dimensions.” Next “after the cornfields come meadows on each side, down to the brook or river.” And on the border-line between the arable land and the pastures are set the farmhouses and the villages, each with its church and manor house, its orchards and great clumps of elms with “a rookery or two to every parish.”

Southern Wiltshire was the part of the county that Cobbett favoured most—“just the sort of country that I like”—but it is the rich, wide pastures in the west and north, where the downs keep their distance, which have made Wiltshire butter and Wiltshire bacon famous all over England. At Bishopstrow, near Warminster, Cobbett saw the horn-cattle “up to their eyes in grass

in the meadows”; Wootton Bassett might be a vile, rotten borough, but “the country all round it is very fine”; of the stretch between Blunsdon and Highworth he notes in italic that it is “a cheese country; some corn, but, generally speaking, it is a country of dairies.” So Wiltshire remains to-day, but with rather less corn, and, perhaps, rather more bacon, though in one place Cobbett counted “more than 300 hogs in one stubble.” Only the marketing of the farm produce has altered. A great organisation like the Wiltshire United Dairies is the distributing agency for the farms, and delivers Wiltshire milk and Wiltshire butter all over England; while the curing of bacon is carried out in factories in the country towns, at Devizes and Trowbridge and Calne, where the Harris family, who started the industry as long ago as 1770, still have the principal business in the county.

Wiltshire was formerly renowned for its cloth, but even in Cobbett's day the industry had almost died out, and he devoted several pages to describing the sufferings which he found among the weavers of Bradford, Trowbridge and Warminster in the day when there was no dole. Cloth-making, however, has survived at Trowbridge and at Chippenham, and Wilton continues to be known for its carpets.

A feature of Wiltshire which Cobbett does not fail to remark is the size of the farms. “The farms are all large, and, generally speaking, they were always large, I dare say; because sheep is one of the great things here; and sheep, in a country like this must be kept in flocks, to be of any profit.” And the fields are equally on a great scale, a fact which may have a revolutionary effect on Wiltshire farming, at any rate, on the downs. In neighbouring Hampshire Lord Lympington and Mr. Dudley have already shown how well adapted is the swelling upland country to large scale mechanised farming, and at Wexcombe, on the Marlborough Downs, Mr. Hosier has evolved his remarkable system of dairy farming, whereby he has been able to produce milk of good quality on land that would have been considered utterly unsuitable for dairying. Wexcombe has now become a Mecca for farmers, and one may be sure that if Cobbett had been living to-day he too, would have made a special journey to see it. But whether the system would have met with his approval is another matter. It is difficult to believe that one who hated machines so whole-heartedly would have been impressed by the mechanical milker, or that he would ever have become reconciled to “the power farm” with its tractors ploughing fifteen furrows at a time. Here, indeed, there is a change to record, and what effects it may have on the Wiltshire of to-morrow, only time can show.



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By Vanden Plas.

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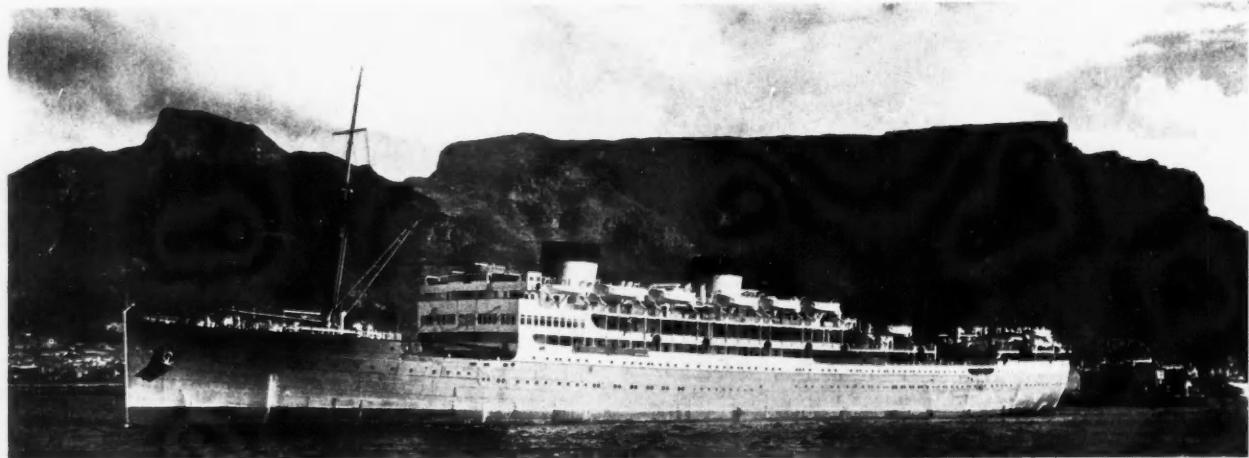
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HOLIDAYS AT SEA



THE UNION CASTLE LINER WARWICK CASTLE IN CAPE TOWN HARBOUR

IT has been roughly estimated by a shipping authority that some five million pounds will be spent during the coming summer by passengers on pleasure cruises from these shores. The rapid growth in the cruising habit has been attributed to various causes. One undoubtedly is the fact that the exchange rate is against English travellers in most European countries, whereas on these cruises the pound remains a pound, and by far the greater part of the money expended on cruises remains in this country, for the ships are British, as are their officers and crews, while provisions for the whole voyage are obtained in home ports. Fares on the whole are extraordinarily low, for the great shipping companies are not out, so to speak, to make enormous profits; but by the cruises they are in a position to employ many big vessels which, owing to the decline in ordinary traffic, would otherwise perforce have to remain idle in port. A shipping company's official recently informed a daily contemporary that, in his opinion, broadcasting has played a significant part in stimulating the popularity of cruises. People have been induced to take a greater interest in foreign countries, and this, with the increase in travel facilities, has given a fillip to travel, especially when it is possible on magnificent floating hotels.

In an account of a recent cruise, contained in a book by Mr. Charles Graves, which is reviewed overleaf, the author confesses that it had been impossible to foresee the glamour of dancing on the open deck to a first-class orchestra, with the moon throwing a molten silver bar over the cobalt sea, and the white foam sliding swiftly past to form a wake; the companionship on board ship; the exchange of charming confidences; the rapidly ripening friendships and intimacies; the magnificent appetites and grateful thirsts; the basking in deck chairs while the rest of the world goes hang; and, above all, the visits to strange lands and glamorous scenes which one could never contemplate visiting except for the advent of the pleasure cruise. In the early spring and summer, as will be seen from the schedules of cruises which appear overleaf, the objective of most cruises will be the Mediterranean, some of the vessels not penetrating farther than the Bay of Naples, while others will take their fortunate passengers up the unrivalled eastern coast of the Adriatic, with calls at such dream cities as Spalato, Ragusa

and Venice. The first-named of these three cities is the capital of the Jugo-Slavian province of Dalmatia. Its centre and nucleus is the great Palace of Diocletian, built in the third and fourth centuries, into the broken columns and colonnades of which have been built thousands of mediæval houses. Ragusa, which is now called by the cacophonous name of Dubrovnik, is, for its situation, its natural beauty and its buildings, ancient and modern, the most picturesque city on the Dalmatian coast. On the one side its fortifications rise sheer out of the water, and on the other a round tower dominates the landscape, while outside the city walls are innumerable villas set in pleasant gardens. At one time Ragusa was one of the principal ports of southern Europe; its treasure ships sailed all the then known seas and, incidentally, gave to the English language the new word "argosy." Others, again, will voyage still farther east and enable passengers to pay a hurried visit to Jerusalem, or to see something of the now historic beaches of Gallipoli on their way to Istanbul, as Constantinople is now called. Not the least interesting of the cruises will be those which call at some of the beautiful islands of the Mediterranean. About 120 miles from the coast of Spain is the lovely island of Majorca, whose capital, Palma, is on the south-west coast overlooking a fine bay, and is dominated by a glorious honey-coloured cathedral, an exceptionally beauti-

ful building which contains some remarkable stained glass. The town itself is full of colour, with narrow cobbled streets rising by steps to the upper section. Everywhere *patios* are to be seen, with exquisite wrought-iron work and wells in the centre. Another island to be visited on some of the cruises is Sicily, whose capital, Palermo, lies on the shore of a bay as beautiful as that of Naples, bounded on either side by Monte Catalfar and Monte Pellegrino. Behind and on each side of the city stretches the famous Conca d'Oro, or golden shell—appropriate enough name for the plain of marvellous fertility which is thickly planted with oranges and lemons, their golden fruits gleaming amid the dark green foliage with palms and almonds and fig trees. The island of Rhodes, off the coast of Asia Minor, is endowed with an almost perfect climate, and presents wonderful views of the mainland, the islands of the Archipelago and Mount Ida towering above Crete to the westward. Its capital and only city contains the mediæval city of the Knights of St. John, with its walls and towers and moated castle, its palaces and churches and private houses on which the armorial bearings of the Middle Ages, including those of popes and kings, still remain. Another island of great archaeological interest is Crete, which lies to the south of Greece. It is famous for its wonderful excavations, made for the most part under English auspices, at Cnossos.

The largest and best preserved of the excavated buildings is the Palace, in which have been found frescoes, a throne, and even the great jars in which the provisions of the Royal household were stored four thousand years ago. Those passengers to whom it has ever been a dream of their lives to visit Egypt will choose a cruise during which a call will be made at Port Said, whence it is but a short run by train up to the ever fascinating Cairo.

During a few hours in Egypt's wonderful capital, one will find time to run out to Mena House on the other side of the Nile, and to glimpse for the first time perhaps, the Pyramids and the ever-mysterious Sphinx, far more imposing than of yore now that the sand has been cleared away from its base. In Cairo itself one can either visit the bazaars, to reach which one must traverse the Muski, most unique of streets with its dense traffic of camels, donkeys, and natives with complexions of every conceivable gradation of brown; or can



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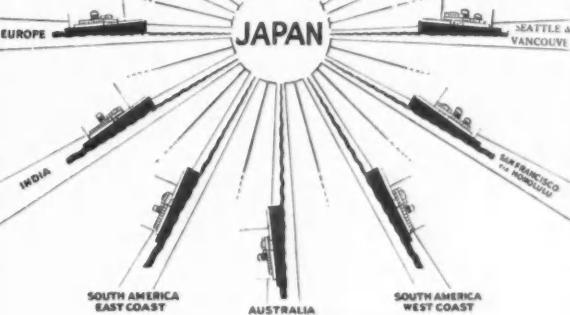
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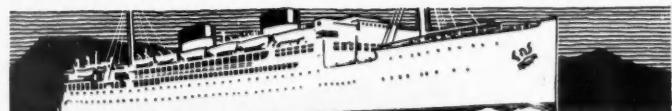


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visit the Museum in which is now carefully stored the amazing wealth of objects from the tomb of Tut-ahkh-amen. On still other cruises one may be taken to the lovely Canary Islands, and both Las Palmas and Teneriffe more than repay a visit. Then, as the summer comes on, one may visit Cape Town and the many delightful ports on the South African coast. Cape Town itself is a charming city, being a striking example of a new civilisation grafted on to an older one. Many evidences of the older epoch are to be found in the southern part of the Cape Province, which is rich in the picturesque homesteads of Dutch colonists.

TRAVEL NOTES

THE following spring cruises have been arranged by various shipping companies:

The Blue Star Line.—The s.s. Arandora Star will leave Southampton on April 13th for Lisbon - Gibraltar - Tunis - Athens - Istanbul - Rhodes-Naples and Malaga, arriving back in Southampton on May 8th. Duration of cruise, twenty-five days. Fare from 45 guineas.

She will leave again on May 10th for Vigo - Gibraltar - Villefranche - Barcelona - Valencia - Palma - Tangier and Lisbon, arriving home on May 26th. Duration of cruise, sixteen days. Fares, from 26 guineas.

Her third cruise will start on May 27th, and she will call at Lisbon - Casablanca - Las Palmas - Teneriffe and Madeira, arriving home on June 9th. Duration of cruise, thirteen days. Fare, from 21 guineas.

The Orient Line.—The s.s. Orford will leave Southampton on April 13th for Arosa Bay-Palma-Palermo Athens Dubrovnik-Kotor-Corfu - Syracuse - Malta-Ceuta and Vigo, arriving back on May 5th. Duration of cruise, twenty-two days. Fare, from 39 guineas.

The same vessel will leave again on May 6th for Gibraltar-Naples-Kotor-Dubrovnik-Venice-Korkula-Tangier-Lisbon and Vigo, arriving

home on May 26th. Duration of cruise, twenty days. Fare from 36 guineas.

The P. and O. Line.—The s.s. Viceroy of India will leave London on May 12th for Ceuta - Philippeville - Port Said - Beirut - Istanbul - Athens - Naples and Barcelona, arriving back on June 9th. Duration of cruise, twenty-eight days. Fare from 45 guineas.

The s.s. Strathnaver will leave London on May 19th for Ceuta-Sousse-Itea (for Delphi)-Naples - Genoa - Monte Carlo - Barcelona and Gibraltar, arriving back on June 10th. Duration of cruise, twenty-two days. Fare, from 37 guineas.

The Royal Mail Company.—The s.s. Alcantara will leave Southampton on April 1st for Tangier-Barcelona-Villefranche-Naples and Algiers, arriving back on April 18th. Duration of cruise, seventeen days. Fare, from 29 guineas.

The s.s. Atlantis will leave Southampton on April 7th for Malaga-Malta-Cyprus-Beirut-Haifa-Port Said-Rhodes-Athens-Palermo and Athens, arriving back on May 4th. Duration of cruise, twenty-seven days. Fare, from 48 guineas.

The same vessel will leave again on May 6th for Lisbon-Palermo-Athens-Salonika-Gallipoli - Istanbul - Rhodes - Crete - Algiers

and Malaga, arriving back on May 31st. Duration of cruise, twenty-five days. Fare, from 45 guineas.

The Union Castle Line.—During the coming summer vessels of this line will take passengers to Port Said and back via Gibraltar-Palma-Marseilles and Genoa. Return fare, £40. There will also be short cruises monthly, lasting ten or eleven days, to Antwerp-Rotterdam-Hamburg and back. Fare, 12 guineas. It will also be possible to visit Madeira and the Canary Isles by the Company's vessels. A stay on the islands may vary in length. To either of the islands the return fare will be £20. Later on in the summer the Company will run tours to South African ports at specially reduced fares. Particulars from 125, Pall Mall, S.W.1.

Would-be passengers in any of the cruises scheduled above can obtain full particulars at the head offices of Messrs. Thomas Cook and Son in Berkeley Street, W., or at any of this firm's subsidiary offices. The firm will engage berths and undertake train reservations.

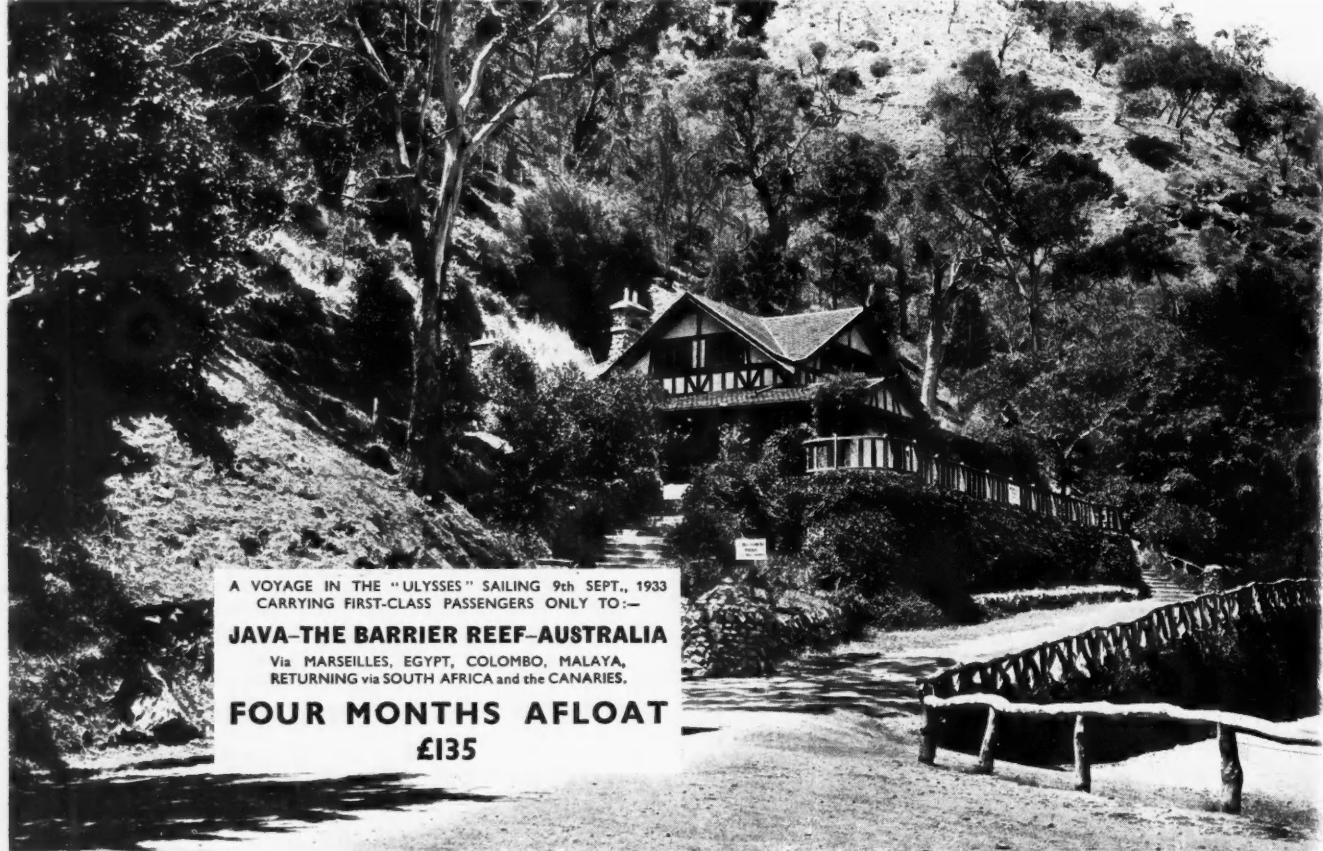
Gone Abroad Again, by Charles Graves (Nicholson and Watson, 6s.).—The author's last travel book, "Gone Abroad," noticed on this page a year ago, was a pure joy, and this book is even "joyousier," as Alice might say. On this occasion Mr. Graves joined a ship at Venice and visited Spalato, Corfu, Athens, Corinth, Constantinople, Rhodes, Crete, and Ragusa. The author has an almost uncanny knack of meeting original people on his travels, and his encounters with them make extraordinarily good reading. Of two episcopal fellow-voyagers, one discarded his gaiters before leaving London and the other at Milan *en route*, and Mr. Graves describes the resultant mental and physical relaxation as being like a draught of Pimms No. 1 after two rounds of golf in August. All those who are thinking of a cruise in the eastern Mediterranean should make a point of taking this book with them. They could not find a pleasanter or more stimulating companion.



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SOLUTION to No. 162.
The clues for this appeared in March 4th issue.

"COUNTRY LIFE" CROSSWORD No. 164

A prize of books of the value of 3 guineas, drawn from those published by COUNTRY LIFE, will be awarded for the first correct solution to this puzzle opened in this office. Solutions should be addressed (in a closed envelope) "Crossword No. 164, COUNTRY LIFE, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," and must reach this office not later than the first post on the morning of Thursday, March 23rd, 1933.

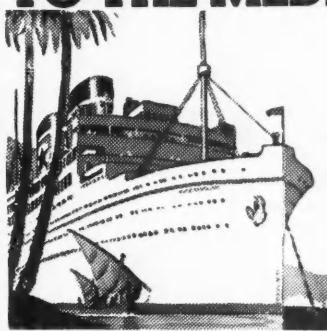
The winner of
Crossword No. 162 is
Miss E. M. Day,
Felmersham Grange,
Bedfordshire.

DOWN.

- China from London.
- "Glib ode" (anagr.).
- Whence a Dumas hero took his title.
- A vegetable.
- Frequently seen on a tomb-stone.
- A very modern flier.
- What more than one Scotch firm is apt to do.
- A relative position.
- Every girl loves to be called this.
- A college common to Oxford and Cambridge.
- You couldn't climb these in a ^{13.}
- Ridicule.
- The sort of cost you don't mind.
- A service regulating list.
- A painful ailment.
- Was often a safeguard for convoys.
- What most of our solvers are.
- Picked up on the last day of the sale.

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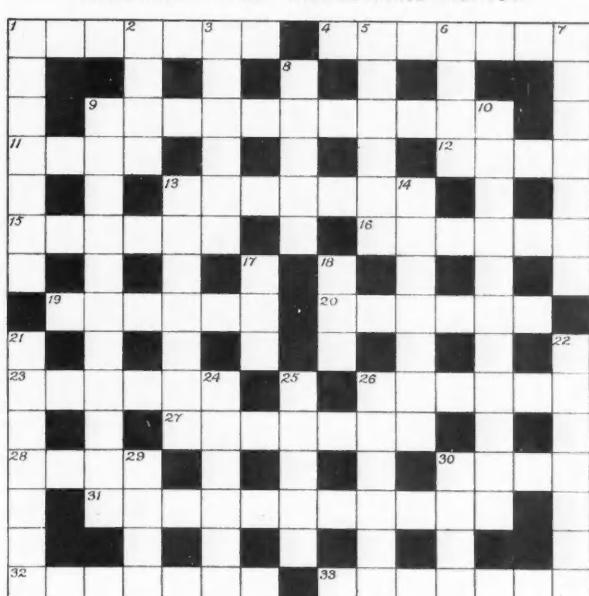
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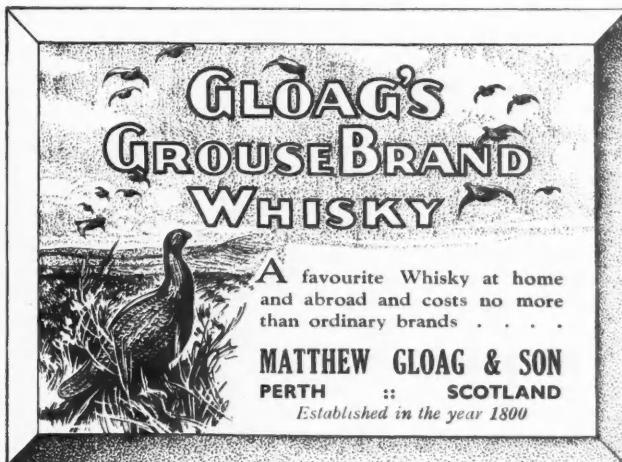
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THE HUNGARIAN PARTRIDGE

THE above generic term covers the partridge of central Europe, whether it comes from Bohemia (now Czechoslovakia), Hungary, or the borders of Rumania; but those interested in the export from Hungary maintain that the birds from there wander far less than those caught elsewhere, and that Rumanian birds are the worst of all for straying. Prejudice, maybe, but it is so stated.

The system of catching in Hungary is by fixed nets, and carried out on some estate rented for that purpose, in many cases an extra sum per head being paid to the landlord for every bird taken uninjured and sent away. The men netting are usually on the permanent staff of the exporter, and many have been for over twenty years, their spare time being employed in making the many miles of nets of various sizes required for netting not only partridges, but pheasant, hare, roe, etc.

Their most effective net is a low one setting twenty inches high and made of exceptionally soft four-ply thread, set up in about fifty metre lengths, with a double cord and plenty of bag. The birds are gently moved and induced to run by a little tapping, and run quietly into the net and become enfolded and unable to struggle; it is rare to get a bird damaged in this way, and these are used in preference to a line of suspended nets (like grouse nets) and birds driven on the wing towards them.

Another safe method is employed in snow, when netting is not practicable, by making rough shelters of spruce fir branches and feeding the birds inside to a roughly made trap, made on similar lines to what keepers use when catching up pheasants, but with this difference: as it is desired to catch the covey, or as many as possible, the main portion of the food is placed at the back of the trap, and here is the trigger release piece of trip wood which drops when several birds are touching it. Birds caught are then placed in low-framed boxes with canvas sides and top and sent off within a few hours by motor to the collecting station, where each bird is again examined and, if passed, put in the light basket with canvas top—ten to a basket—with millet, wheat and small maize, and sent away by the express train that night for Italy, France or England.

Should more birds come in than there are orders for, they are released in large sheds with shelter houses made of spruce branches, food, grit and water placed at one end, and the floor covered with sand, the whole swept out and cleaned as soon as the birds are re-caught up, ready for a fresh lot, any bird which shows sign of leg injury being killed. If demand is slow, there exists the ready local market for trapped birds for eating, as these are preferred and make double the price of shot ones. So plentiful are they that shot birds are sold retail at 5d. or 6d.

It will be realised that from a well run place birds cannot pick up any disease at the collecting place, and they have no disease out in Hungary when wild.

The exporters strongly advise "release on arrival," but one suggests there are many strong reasons against so doing. The birds take normally—or should do so—seventy-two hours to reach London, where they are due at 7 a.m., and now have to be passed by Customs Officers and 10 per cent. duty *ad valorem* paid on the live birds, any dead removed first; and on to these seventy-two hours must be added the further time taken to reach their new home, any further delay in transit on the Continent may easily make the time extend to nearly ninety-six hours. There is no doubt that birds do not travel as well in the modern super-heated through expresses abroad as they did in old days when the vans were excluded from heating. It is far preferable to release birds into a series of pens according to the numbers arriving; the pens placed on the lee side of a hedge can be made of sheets of light galvanised iron, laid lengthwise, or hurdles with straw packed in and 2½ in. netting across the top; but the netting must be blinded with grass or old straw laid on all over, and some branches to keep it down, or the birds will jump at the light and injure their heads, apart from not settling down. Plenty of chaff or cavings from the thrashing machine is placed in heaps, some spruce fir branches for cover, plenty of grit from off some water-washed farm road, shallow drinking pans put near the side so that they

can be easily removed and washed out before refilling; but on arrival do not give much water, or the birds will drink far too much at first; scatter the feed of small wheat, small barley, cracked maize, and leave the birds alone.

Next day one may look in unseen through some hole and see if any look ill or lame, and scatter a little more feed. By the third or fourth day the birds will know the keeper's whistle and begin to move up as he scatters the fresh feed in. They need green food of some kind—old Brussels sprouts stems or kale tied up on the side is good, but not too much: a glance at the droppings will tell if all is well.

After ten days the birds will have made up their lost weight and be tamer; but in releasing it is advisable to allow only eight or ten to run out at a time. If it is desired to ring the birds, it must be done on arrival, before release; it is far more safely accomplished if the keeper gets a friend who is a racing pigeon fancier to come and catch the bird in the basket and put the ring on, catching hold of a bird in the safe and correct manner is an acquired art, and equally so is holding it correctly to ring; it is very easy to harm a bird in catching or in holding, and prevention is better than cure.

A pen made about 22 yds. by 14 yds. takes fifty birds nicely for a period up to two weeks, but not longer. The birds want to get out, so it is very important to see that actual light does not show owing to the straw or grass on the roof netting getting moved to one side.

The undoubtedly wandering propensity of birds imported from areas where hedges and banks do not exist is undoubtedly very great; to them a nice sunny hedgerow or bankside means nothing, they have never seen one before from where they came.

A friend ringed ten brace turned out in an eastern county in November; the following year two were shot two miles off, one three miles, one five miles, and a hen with a large covey of young shot seven miles off; the remainder were not heard of. It is clear that, unless birds are marked or ringed, those who turn down can never be sure of results. One has heard so many say that no benefit has been seen from their outlay, but there was no proof the birds were not away on someone else's shoot!

As to cost and outlay of importing direct, the birds cost 18s. to 20s. per pair c.i.f. London, on to which sum has to be added 10 per cent. import tax, also agent's charge for clearing, forwarding, and carriage on to destination. If one bought from game farms in this country, where one can go and select one's feed up birds in their large pens, ready to release and semi-tamed, at 24s. or 23s. per pair, it would seem preferable to importing direct.

It is not necessary to remind owners of partridge shoots that there is no reason to suppose that Hungarian birds are immune from catching the partridge disease if turned out where it still exists, even though only slightly.

FOOD FOR THE DOGS

IT is still quite an undecided matter what dogs live on. If you consult an Eskimo, he tells you he never gives anything but frozen salmon, while ladies with very small, delicate pets with falsetto voices favour a little chicken or some lightly poached veal. Somewhere between the two extremes of taste there is probably the correct dietary for the civilised ordinary dog which is neither wild and woolly nor an aesthete.

Meat, biscuits, exercise and variety are all equally important elements in the menu, and the last-named is all too often forgotten. In fact, you will usually hear a discussion on dog food begin: "I *always* give my dog —." Well, that's the trouble. No rigid dietary is really good for all dogs, and some dogs need change far more than others. The only necessarily fixed element is the biscuit ration; but even in this all the leading makers recognise the need for variety, and an occasional change to a different type

The "Field" Certificate, 1931. Established 1880
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WORMS IN A SPANIEL

Ballyraine, Arklow,
 January 4th, 1930.

To-day I gave my six months old spaniel one-half of a Naldire's Powder, and in fifteen minutes he had passed a mass of worms the size of a tennis ball. It was composed of 35 tapeworms, varying from 5ft. to 18in. This shows that Naldire's Powder are worthy of recommendation.

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Flynn's

of biscuit, not necessarily a change of brand (and most certainly not a change to an unknown brand), makes a break in monotony.

Dogs, however, are not meant to live on biscuit and hound meals alone. These may represent a substantial bulk item, but some fresh meat is essential, and occasional raw meat very advisable. The best butcher to deal with is the man who has plenty of inexpensive scraps. The butcher who is short of dog pieces obviously plants them on his customers, robbing the public and, worse, the dog.

Beef is probably a wise dog's preference, but mutton is as good, and a wise housekeeper can provide a vast supply of good Scotch broth for the family and excellent meat rations for the dogs out of the breasts of imported lamb.

For pups and bitches in whelp, milk and water or skim milk is the best of all foods or accessory foods; but the town dweller is not, as a rule, conveniently situated for giving his dogs the chances in early life that a foxhound pup "at walk" on a farm enjoys. The only way of bringing the country to the town dog's food is to use one of the vitamin concentrates, of which one sprinkles about a teaspoonful or so over the meal. It is appetising stuff, and in a week or so it shows a marvellous effect in vitality and cheerfulness.

SPORTING

WHEN the first patches of primroses make their appearance we reflect that just as the guns and shooting paraphernalia have been put away until next August, so it will not be long before the saddlery goes to its rest in the harness room and the horses themselves go out to grass. But no sooner does one form of sport go out of season than another presses equally urgently upon its heels.

The guns are barely stowed before we must needs have our rods out, and the moment you take down your fishing bag you become conscious of the poverty-stricken state of your tackle. Everyone who casts a fly or guides the destiny of a minnow has probably known the bitterness of a lost fish from using last year's gut. Tackle needs pretty wholesale replacement, and even rods do not last indefinitely. They are old friends, and one deems them almost immortal, but then we are rather blind to their failings and their lag behind the fashion—that is, until we buy a new one and suddenly discover that there is infinite difference.

A perfect English rod is a very wonderful piece of skilled workmanship, and it is incomparably superior to any other nation's production, for it is not simply a good instrument for its purpose, but it is, beyond that, a real work of art.

The English have a particular genius for making sporting goods which are unapproachable. It began, I fancy, with the long bow when archery was our national sport and defence, and it comes down a long line through saddlery and sporting guns (still the best in all the world) to fishing rods famous the world over, cricket bats that echo through the Antipodes, and tennis rackets, golf clubs and balls.

Touch ever so tenderly on any sporting subject when abroad, and it is ten to one that someone among the charming foreigners present will stab a finger at you and say "Me I 'ave a Inglis—" gun, rod, saddle, racket, club—whatever it is that he has got. It is the hall mark of "sport" and style. Oddly enough, the foreigners show a far higher degree of really critical appreciation of our sporting goods than we do ourselves. We accept them as unquestionably the best, but how little we really appreciate their true worth and the underlying art which makes them beautiful as well as efficient! So far as rods are concerned, our English wares differ from the mass production models of commerce in that ours are built to catch fish, the others simply to catch the eye!

At to-day's prices English sporting equipment is a wonderful investment, for it gives years of service. A pair of guns will last a lifetime, probably rather more. What angler is so poor that he cannot afford the best of rods at least once in, say, twenty years? Is half a guinea or so a year a great tax to pay for perfection?

Guns, rods and saddles are peculiarly personal things, rather definitely male in their usual association; but tennis rackets and golf clubs have no sex. In the competition of modern life the girl with a dud racket gets nowhere. A judicious selection of essentially well fitting clubs may lift an indifferent player to spheres of mental exaltation.

Besides which, when all is said and done, we use all of these things for playing with—and if our play is to be enjoyable, it is as well to see to it that from time to time our toys are new.

Apart from the personal equation, there is the "place" equation. A country house is in essence a focus for sports, and every spring reveals a stealthy deterioration in some part of its equipment. A good grass court looks despondent if there are holes in a moth-eaten net. The surround nets, too, need attention if mice have nested in them while they were rolled up for the winter. These things happen. First and last, it is both cheaper, quicker and more economical to scrap old stuff and get a new set in. This even applies to door scrapers if they are reduced

No feeding, however good, helps a dog which is vicariously feeding many others, and the routine worm dose is an absolute necessity for country dogs and a wise quarterly precaution for town dwellers. Eczema, a slightly tainted breath, loss of glossiness in the coat—the first probability is worms, and not necessarily very noticeable ones. Cooper's worm remedy is one of the best, for it attacks both round worms and tape worms at one and the same time. In general, liquid remedies are more efficient than those in solid or powder form, as the skilful dog easily rejects these and artfully dissimulates.

Very often, dogs which have lacked exercise or been rather indiscreetly fed get a little "out of sorts" in early spring. In nine cases out of ten the dog owner will restore health and happiness and a less depressed and suspicious outlook on life if he gives the treatment he would give himself. Half a not too drastic liver pill—one of Master's own.

The kindest dog owners give their dogs a spring overhaul, like they do their cars. A worm dose, a vitamin tonic with their food, and a little regular attention to ear canker, which is probably there, though not noticeable. These kindly attentions and an abundance of exercise and variety of food will make a dog's life worth living.

H. B. C. P.

REQUISITES

to a dozen weak bristles and a wobbly bit of iron. The cost of several new scrapers is absorbed by "extra help," the cook's euphemism for the village charlady.

So far as our sporting things are concerned, only the best gives satisfaction, and the old and decrepit should be scrapped. Warped rackets, bits of old fishing rods, rotten gut, outdoor gear of all kinds which has perished with neglect and age. There is only one wise counsel. Throw it all away, or, best of all, burn it lest it returns. Get in good reliable new stuff, and enjoy your sports and your games.

Magpie-like, we hoard lumber; deficient croquet sets, tennis balls that will not bounce, gun cases which are Victorian, fly-books which the moth has badly corrupted, senile golf clubs. These things are no use—will never be any use; for years we have felt they "might come in handy." They never will, neither do they tempt one.

New things, on the other hand, are a stimulus and an incentive in themselves, and there is every reason to have a vigorous house-cleaning of old junk and a shopping expedition in search of new and better equipment, for, whatever your chosen sport or game, lack of the best equipment is a very real handicap, and, when all is said and done, you are not, if ill equipped, giving yourself the sporting chance.

It is an astonishing thing how every ball has its net. Some games, one would think, would elude the net, but on reflection one finds that this is not so. Nets are essential, one recognises, to football, cricket, hockey and lawn tennis, but, somehow or other, one does not associate them with golf or bowls. Nevertheless there are golf practice nets which are wholly admirable affairs, for those devotees whose space or time are restricted; and there are also nets for bowls. Nets are the proper thing to carry bowls in.

In fact, strive as you will, whatever ball you affect there is an appropriate bit of netting waiting for it somewhere. Badminton, net-ball, polo or water polo, lacrosse or ping-pong, there is always a net. Even in billiards the pockets are small affairs of net. We are enmeshed in it.

But, oddly enough, net plays an enormous part in all sorts of other country house uses besides games. But for netting, our fruit and strawberries would suffer even more from the predatory attentions of our little bird friends. When one considers the amenities of the garden, I am not at all sure that we ought not to set a far higher value on the humble, but useful, netting which gives the pea its start in life and protects fruit until it ripens.

In a less utilitarian way it meets our need in other ways. A hammock is really a luxury form of lounge if it is one of the proper kind which hangs in a steady but easily moved framework. A fixed hammock is only moderately useful; but one which can be moved to catch or avoid the sun is, in itself, an invitation to make the most of the quiet of the countryside. There are many people who prefer an hour in a hammock to an hour of practice in the best of nets in a last-moment middle-aged practice for a country house cricket match. After all, the hammock devotee has a most admirable excuse. Is he or she not supporting, and being supported by, a most deserving British industry?

Nets of all kinds are made down on the Dorset coast; and these infinite varieties, which serve our games and sports, protect our fruit, and serve us in a myriad ways, are all part and parcel of the vast sea fishing net industry and are made of similar materials and with the same skilled labour. No wonder, then, that first-class equipment of this sort gives its years and years of service before it has to be replaced. No less than any other kind of sports equipment it is an investment for the future at the prices of to-day.

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REG. No. 413,922.



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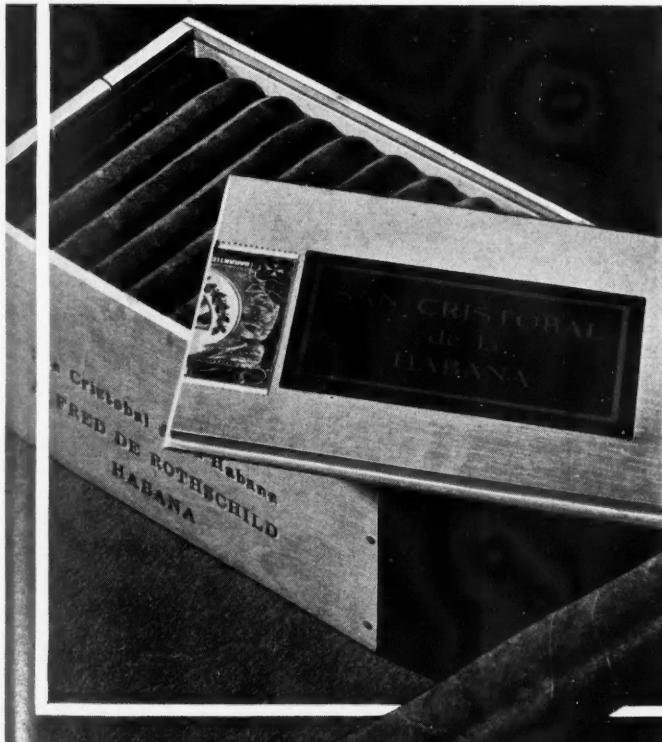
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The HON. MAYNARD GREVILLE (seen here complete with the "Selby"), says that a Cap is still the Ideal Headgear for Motoring.

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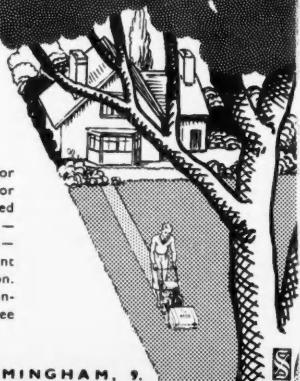
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Large stocks of FRUIT TREES, ROSES, Catalogue C.L. 1; ALPINES and HARDY
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300 ACRES UNDER CULTIVATION.

The BARNHAM NURSERIES Ltd.
BARNHAM, SUSSEX

LUPINS FOR GARDEN EFFECT

FEW hardy herbaceous plants possess so wide and catholic a range of colouring as do the modern varieties of lupins. The immense improvement of the blue, pink and white types and the advance into new shades comprising orange, apricot, yellow, terra cotta and crimson, to say nothing of the many charming bicolors, has raised the herbaceous lupin from a position of mediocrity to one of first importance among June-flowering perennials. The ease with which they may be grown, and their hardy, vigorous constitution, give a very wide scope for their use in the garden.

In common with most plants of rich and vivid colouring, lupins are best planted *en masse* to obtain the most striking effect. To place a single plant by itself is paltry, and there should be at least three—or, better still, five or seven—to comprise each group in the border. These need not of necessity be all of the same shade; in fact, a harmonious blending is often more effective than a huge splash of one colour.

Its medium stature adapts the lupin for positions in the middle of the border, and it is quite a simple matter to arrange them in such a way that an over-conspicuous gap after flowering is avoided. Planted in a bay of Michaelmas daisies and fronted

tolerated, and soil that has been limed recently is best avoided. Protection from slugs must be afforded in the form of dressings of coarse potting sand over the crowns during winter, followed in spring by a reliable insecticide such as Kamforite.

To deal with the improvements in the original colours, the blue section shall be given first attention. One of the most outstanding of these is a recent novelty, Sailor Boy, a fine self navy blue with keel and standard of exactly the same shade. When stock becomes more plentiful it is easy to prophesy that this variety will supersede all others of this colouring, all of which have a touch of purple in the standard that detracts from their beauty, self colour being most desirable. Among the medium tones of blue, Chelsea Blue, Mid-Blue and Mrs. Douglas Mathieson possess all the desirable attributes of the modern type—irreproachable constitutions, good habit, length and substance of spike, and size of individual flower.

Wistaria has the self-same colour as the well known climber whose name it bears, and Munstead Blue is truly described as porcelain blue. Of the paler tones of blue, Opal is particularly fine, having large-keeled flowers of bright opalescent blue, borne on long spikes of great substance. Mrs. G. Prichard is also a



AN INFORMAL ARRAY OF LUPINS IN SWEEPING DRIFTS ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE GARDEN

Lupins are never seen to better advantage than when massed in bold and generous colonies

with varieties of Phlox decussata the lupins will bloom long before the foliage of their neighbours is sufficiently advanced to hide them from view. By removing the flower spike after blooming, the secondary spikes will be encouraged to develop and will often prolong the display well into July. This practice also abolishes the nuisance of self-sown seedlings, often of inferior colouring, so prevalent where lupins are grown.

With the present trend towards a revival of the wild garden, lupins, in common with delphiniums, asters, sidalceas and other similar subjects, may well form an important feature. Vigorous constitution, good bushy habit and a wide range of colours all combine to make the lupin an ideal subject for the wild garden. A position must be chosen for them where they will have full sun and escape the drip from trees, which tends to cause the fleshy rootstock to decay. On the drier portions of a bank bordering a stream few subjects can vie with herbaceous lupins in their season, for colourful effect and majestic bearing.

Lupins are not fastidious in their requirements, and will give an admirable account of themselves in any good garden soil. In fact, a soil that has been freshly manured is not suitable, for too rich a soil causes the roots to become gross and develop a tendency to decay during winter. The best soil is one that has been manured for a previous crop. An excess of lime is not

decided acquisition among the newer introductions; while Hawker is the best of the older sorts and still worth growing.

Of the deep tones of purple, so fine for contrasting with the pale pinks, yellows and apricots, Hillside and Happiness are two old favourites that have withstood the test of time in public favour. Medmont, although on the borderline between purple and magenta, is distinct and desirable if care be taken in the selection of its neighbours, which should be yellow, orange or apricot. Violet is represented best in the large massive spikes of Wargrave Blue. In those shades usually classed as "ladies' colours," Northern Lilac stands very high, having flowers of a distinct rosy lilac; while Lavanda leaves little to be desired in a fine deep lavender tone. Mauve is represented by Eugene and Plato, two varieties of sterling merit with all the modern attributes. Benny-side is still the best heliotrope, although it has been in existence for many years.

White will not occupy a position of very great importance in a collection of lupins, and that fine variety Mount Everest will satisfy all requirements for a good white variety. The best of the cream-coloured section is Edna, whose flowers are enlivened with a slight suggestion of biscuit buff. Sunshine has long been acknowledged as the standard yellow, and is, indeed, a fine garden plant, although its habit suggests not a little of arboreus in its

parentage. Paler in shade, but of true polypyllus character, Sunbeam and Sulphur Gem are excellent and will long be desirable representatives of a colour that is only too rare among herbaceous lupins.

Beautiful and quite distinct, Ada, with its perfectly formed spike of deep amber, should not be omitted from any modern collection. In natural colour sequence we come to orange shades, and the new Isolde Menges is, without doubt, the finest and most satisfactory. With its long, massive spike of orange suffused apricot, Elizabeth Arden is recognised to-day as the leader of fashion in a very desirable and rich colour. Another recent introduction of pleasing colour is Mrs. Nicol Walker, of deep reddish apricot shading to gold in the standard. Lady Greenall is a good self apricot; Tangerine, as its name implies, is a rich blend of tangerine and orange; while the older variety, C. M. Prichard, is still desirable for its telling salmon orange shade.

Pink lupins are legion. Highlander, although not new, still leads as the most satisfactory salmon. As a garden plant of great merit, Rosalind must enjoy popularity for many years to come, on account of its exceptional floriferousness and sturdy constitution; its flowers are a rich shade of deep rose. Beacon has standardised itself as the finest in its particular tone, which almost borders on red, so rich and bright is its colour.

At flower shows, Delight has figured conspicuously in most of the leading herbaceous exhibits. If its constitution were as

becomes better known there is little doubt that it will standardise itself as the leading crimson.

Recently raisers have been turning their attention to the bicolor class, where there is undoubtedly enormous scope in the blending and contrasting of many pleasing colours. Very fascinating with its spike of lavender and white, Exquisite has been very much in demand for the delightfully soft coolness of its colour scheme. Of a more striking appearance, Chocolate Soldier is still recognised as the finest of its type, with keels of indigo and standards of bright yellow.

Northern King is thought well of by many of our leading growers and has proved itself a valuable breeder where form is the aim; it has large keels of mauve pink and spreading standards of white. Keels of porcelain blue form a fine contrast to standards of pure white in Northern Lass, fine variety that may, with confidence, be recommended wherever bicolors are appreciated.

G. A. PHILLIPS.



IN BOLD GROUPS IN THE EARLY SUMMER BORDER LUPINS PROVIDE A STRIKING DISPLAY.

faultless as its glorious colour, there would be little scope for improvement. Unfortunately, however, it has been found most fickle in many gardens, where its life has been only of short duration. In propagation, too, it is shy with most nurserymen. This celebrated variety has, however, to-day a formidable rival in the recently introduced Mrs. Penry Williams, a variety equaling it in colour and with nearly as massive a spike. Moreover, its constitution is faultless, and it is a rapid propagator. As it

THE PRIMULINUS GLADIOLI

PRIMULINUS hybrid gladioli are much better known nowadays than a few years ago, but it is very surprising that more use is not made of them both for garden and interior decoration. It will be remembered that they owe their origin to the species *G. primulinus*, from which they take their class name, and the modern primulinus hybrids are the result of crosses made between this species and the large-flowering type. Without doubt, these newcomers have greatly widened the sphere of usefulness of the gladiolus, not only as a garden plant, but as a cut flower. In the first place, their informal and graceful appearance gives them an airy lightness which is almost comparable to that of the sweet pea. Their thin, yet strong, stems hold the flowers rigid even in positions exposed to the wind. Unsightly stakes can be dispensed with, which is, to my mind, a very great point in favour of these primulinus hybrids.

as garden plants. It is almost impossible to write about primulinus hybrid gladioli without some comparison with the large-flowered class. In general, the chief difference between these two main types of gladioli is in the size of their blooms and the manner in which the blooms are spaced on the flower stem. The primulinus hybrids are relatively smaller, with the flowers spaced wider apart. As might be expected through continuous inter-crossing, many of the later hybrids can hardly be distinguished from the large-flowering type.

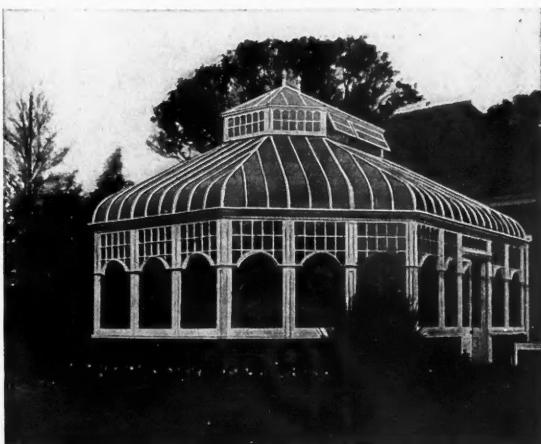
In an effort to classify them accurately, they have been subdivided into two sections, the ordinary small-flowered primulinus hybrids and a larger-flowered intermediate type termed primulinus grandiflorus.

Though the primulinus hybrids are undoubtedly far better garden plants than the large-flowering type, they have their limitations, and need sympathetic treatment if the best effects are to be obtained. For instance, among them are found



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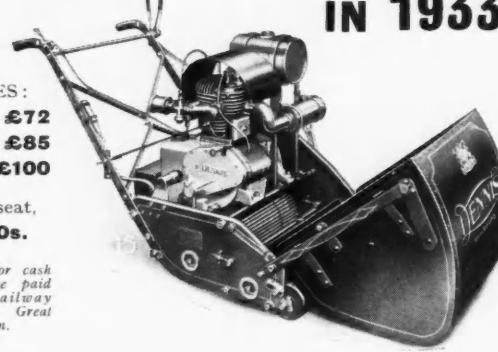
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many delicate tints which, though superb for indoor decoration, are "lost" when seen in the garden. Therefore, for this particular purpose, the stronger, brighter colours should be chosen. In my opinion, beds or borders cannot be devoted entirely to gladioli with hope of a really decorative effect; it is much better to group them here and there among other subjects in "colonies" of seven or eight corms planted rather closely together. Very small beds, given up wholly to primulinus gladioli, can sometimes be showy with suitable surroundings; but in general, the use of a "carpeting" plant is advisable to counteract their somewhat austere and stiff habit of growth.

Intermediate antirrhinums and primulinus hybrid gladioli may be associated in this manner most successfully, provided always that their colours are judiciously chosen. Naturally, if the "colony" method is adopted, the little groups will be confined to single varieties only. Such colonies are not out of place by any means in the mixed border, and few subjects are better for brightening up the edges of the shrubbery. From a decorative point of view, rows of gladioli simply emphasise their formal habit, and should always be avoided. Of course, rows are quite a different matter if the plants are being grown exclusively for cut blooms in the kitchen garden: indeed, it is then the most convenient way.

As cut flowers, the primulinus hybrids, whether of the small or grandiflorus type, are ideal. In the first place, like all gladioli, they last well in water, and their great variation in colour, size, height, shape, and times of blooming, give them an exceedingly wide scope. Some of the small-flowered kinds, with their thin, wiry stems, are admirable for table decoration in small vases; on the other hand, the grandiflorus class are more suited to larger decorative schemes. Perhaps gladiolus spikes are not among the easiest of flowers to arrange; all too often we see them standing up in vases or bowls, each spike monotonously vertical and at a level with its neighbours. It is much more artistic if this formal evenness can be avoided and the spikes arranged at differing heights and angles. Then, again, another tendency is to overcrowd the spikes in their vases. Their arrangement in bowls or baskets can be greatly simplified if the water containers have a double grid of strong wire netting fixed to them to hold the spikes in the positions desired. The mesh should be fairly wide, and the top grid at a level with the top of the bowl, the second grid two or three inches lower.

The choice of suitable foliage is something of a problem. Their own sword-like leaves may be sufficient when dealing with the massive spikes of the large-flowering varieties; but, unless

some other foliage is used with the primulinus class, the bottom parts of the stems always seem bare. Asparagus Sprengerii and Asparagus plumosus can be introduced with advantage. Though gypsophila is out of place, Thalictrum dipterocarpum makes a good associate. Sprays of the autumn foliage of many trees and shrubs are very effective, though, of course, such foliage must be used sparingly and with due regard to the colour of the flowers. Cultivated ornamental grasses and wild grasses will also serve to enhance the daintiness of the smaller-flowered varieties. To preserve a fresh-looking decoration, simply remove the faded bottom flowers from the spikes each day, and, if necessary, cut a small portion from the base of the stems.

Comparatively few are aware of the rapid strides which have been made during the past few years in the improvement of primulinus gladioli, both in form and colour. The standard varieties are now so very cheap that, for cut flower purposes, they should be planted, not by the dozen, but by the hundred. Among the less expensive but really first-class kinds, Salmon Beauty (delicate salmon with yellow thro.), Xanthia (pure golden orange), Souvenir (rich yellow), Orange Queen (coppery orange), Krelage's Favourite (scarlet), Maiden's Blush (pink), Rosandra (cerise pink), L'Innocence (creamy white), Salmonia (salmon flushed orange), Orange Brilliant (orange and yellow bicolor), Athalia (orange scarlet) and Citronella (creamy yellow) are all first rate, both for interior and garden decoration.

It will serve no useful purpose to mention varieties which are not yet in commerce, and, indeed, the list of really good ones would be too long; but here are a few excellent varieties of fairly recent introduction which can be purchased reasonably: Golden Frills, a bright yellow with small red throat blotch, the petals being heavily frilled; Apricot Queen, rich cream ground daintily flushed salmon pink with small chestnut blotch; Cherry, bright cherry pink with white throat and small cerise blotch; Gloriana, golden salmon, a most beautiful soft, yet rich, colour; Clarion, deep claret with purple blotch; Sweetheart, rich salmon pink; Pinkie, rosy pink flushed with deeper pink, blooms well spaced; Goldie, golden orange, one of the finest primulinus hybrids in existence; Mary, delicate orange with yellow throat, the placement of the blooms exceedingly attractive; and Richness, rich orange, slightly flaked with deeper orange, creamy orange throat. Among the many outstanding new varieties which will be placed in commerce in the near future, Messrs. Unwins' Royalty should be noted, if only for its distinctiveness. It was awarded the gold vase for the best gladiolus novelty of the year, and is a rich purple with a picotee wire edge of gold.

C. H. A. S.

THE MODERN

THE antirrhinum is used probably more extensively than any other plant "that can be raised from seed" for the furnishing and decoration of beds and borders throughout the summer. Its popularity everywhere is a reflection of its many virtues, chief among which are its fine range of beautiful shades, its varying heights and its ease of culture from seed. Few plants afford such a rich and brilliant display in the summer garden, and none is valued more highly for bedding purposes. Twenty-five years ago, when I had charge of a trial of some 130 varieties collected from all the known sources in this country, America and the Continent, quite 30 per cent. were hopeless mixtures and the remainder varied considerably, only a very small percentage being reasonably true. Since then, thanks to the patient efforts of many raisers who specialise in the flower, remarkable progress has been made, and the gardener now has at his disposal a fine range of modern varieties that for the most part breed absolutely true to type from seed.

It is interesting to note that the evolution of the antirrhinum is by no means an end. Only in recent years have two new sections been added: the bedding section, which comes between the medium and dwarf; and the rock hybrids, which are descended from *A. glutinosum*. The former are most useful for small beds and as an edging to larger beds, as well as for planting in wind-swept positions where the tall or medium varieties would require staking; while the latter make fine subjects

ANTIRRHINUM

for the rock garden. They are of neat bushy habit, only a few inches high, and flower generously for weeks on end. So far they are restricted in their colour range, but new shades are gradually being obtained, and when these are fixed there is little doubt that they will rival the dwarf or Tom Thumb varieties.

Generally speaking, plants raised from seed in early spring give the best results. They may be sown from January to March under glass in a temperature of 55° to 60° Fahr., using a compost of three parts loam, one part leaf mould, a half part silver sand, and a small quantity of old mortar rubble or, if the latter is unobtainable, a light sprinkling of lime. After passing the compost through a half-inch mesh sieve, fill up the boxes or pans, using the rough in the bottom for drainage. The surface should then be levelled and the compost well watered, leaving it for an hour or so before sowing. The seed should be sown thinly, and if regular attention can be given it will not need covering with soil. Place a sheet of glass over the box or pan and shade with paper until germination takes place. Remove the paper immediately the seeds germinate, and the glass a day or two later. Water carefully at all times.

When the seedlings are large enough to handle, prick off into other boxes or frames, and when established grow on as cool as possible, admitting air on all favourable occasions and gradually hardening off the seedlings ready for planting out. It is a good plan to pinch out the growing point when about three inches high, to induce them to break into sturdy plants.



ANTIRRHINUMS IN A PARTERRE

While they are simple in their wants and can be trusted to do well in most soils and situations, they are never seen in better condition than when they have an open and sunny position away from the shade and drip of trees, massed in bold groups of one colour for the sake of effect. It is advisable to prepare the beds for their reception as early in autumn as possible, digging in some well rotted manure if the soil is at all on the poor side. Lime is essential to their well-being, and may be supplied either by a good dressing of mortar rubble, or lime applied at the rate of about half a pound to the square yard in the spring.

The plants should be put in their flowering quarters as early as possible, the end of April or early May being about the best time if weather and soil conditions are suitable. If the ground is occupied by spring bedding plants, or too wet and cold to receive them by early May, the young plants should again be transplanted, as they must not be allowed to get hard. When planting, see that they are set firmly in position, for there is nothing more essential to their success. By the regular removal of all flower spikes as they fade, and a few judicious applications of some artificial fertiliser, a continuous display may be had until the plants are cut down by the autumn frosts.

A selection of varieties is purely a matter of individual taste, but the following list includes many of the best and most trustworthy of modern varieties that cannot fail to give

satisfaction, both as to purity of colour and trueness in breeding.

Of the tall varieties (2½-3ft.), Apricot King, pure golden apricot; Huntsman, orange scarlet self; The King, orange scarlet, white tube; Monarch, deep crimson; Princess Elizabeth, soft pink; and Yellow King, deep yellow, are all good. Among the medium varieties (1½-2ft.), Aphrodite, white; Appleby Matthews, orange terra-cotta; Aurore, fiery terra-cotta; Beacon, deep rose pink; Charm, soft pink; Eclipse, crimson, fine spike and habit; Golden Gem, yellow; Majestic Orange King, self old gold; Majestic Sunset, rosy salmon; Malmaison, charming light peach pink; Mrs. R. F. Felton, orange scarlet; and Sybil Eckford, apricot pink and cream, white tube, will all give a good account of themselves. From the bedding kinds (12-16ins.), Amber Queen, deep amber, white tube; Black Prince, velvety maroon; Cherry Pink, bright cherry pink; Lady Roberts, pure primrose; and Orange Red, orange scarlet, is as good a selection as any; while from the dwarf varieties (6-8ins.), Crimson Gem, bright crimson; Pinkie, lovely rose pink; Snowflake, white; and Yellow Prince, yellow, should be chosen.

Some care is necessary when buying seed to obtain it from a reliable source, for undoubtedly much of the seed sold is imported and cannot be relied on to come true. The safest way is to buy seed from those firms who specialise in antirrhinums at home and who grow their own seed.

J. PALMER.

LAWNS AND THEIR GRASSES

TO most people a lawn is composed of "grass," but there are many to-day who are beginning to discover by a closer examination of lawn turf that several distinct members of the large family of grasses usually enter into its composition. The interest thus excited generally leads to a desire for the further study of this important subject.

The composition of a lawn depends very largely on the nature of the underlying soil, while local conditions also exercise an influence, e.g., the amount of rainfall, seasonal temperature, altitude, the close proximity of trees or other causes of shade. For with grasses, as in the case of other plants, the principle of the "survival of the fittest" comes into play, and turf which, for instance, has to stand lack of moisture, or is in a very exposed position, or where the soil is of an extreme character, may vary considerably in comparison with other lawns where different circumstances obtain.

An examination of the downlands or some of the old park lawns surrounding the stately homes of England, reveals the fact that for centuries the turf has been forming root fibres which impart to the lawn that elasticity so characteristic of such stretches of turf. Naturally, these areas have received little artificial attention, and it is frequently found that the "springiness" is increased by the presence of a large quantity of moss. A sward of this description is in many cases found to be composed largely of the fine agrostis and festuca species which are so valuable in the formation of beautiful turf.

It must be admitted that, while the presence of moss and extraneous herbage is almost inevitable in large stretches of turf, in lawns of moderate size such disfigurements are undesirable and should be counteracted by regular dressings of fertiliser and other measures.

Great care is required in the choice of suitable prescriptions of grass seeds for the formation of lawns. Much disappointment, or even total failure, may be experienced owing to the use of mixtures which are unbalanced or unsuited to the conditions. The agrostis and festuca species, already referred to, are often used for the formation of fine turf, and it is important that the correct strains be chosen; in the case of agrostis, seed of a coarse species is almost identical in appearance with that of the true creeping finer type, and it is advisable to procure seed from one of the reputable firms who have for many years made a close study of the subject.

Mixtures restricted to seeds producing such fine grasses are, necessarily, higher in price than those which contain the much coarser perennial rye grass, but the extra cost is well repaid in the finer character and durability of the herbage produced. The use of rye grass in lawn mixtures is much less favoured than was formerly the case. While this grass is sometimes appreciated for its rapid growth in the early stages, it is also a fact that this characteristic is liable to be an encumbrance when it is found that the established lawn must be mown much more frequently than one which has been formed from the dwarf-growing grasses. This strong-growing habit is also disliked because of its effect upon the other species in the mixture, for under certain conditions the finer grasses may be crowded out, and weeds and moss then find an excellent opportunity to encroach. It will thus be seen that an initial saving may not necessarily be an ultimate economy.

When turf is required under trees, special attention should be paid to the composition of the mixture, for there are certain varieties which are more at home under shady conditions than others. There is a wood known to the writer where each year there grow two patches of annual meadow grass (*Poa annua*) and wood meadow grass (*Poa nemoralis*), and there is no doubt that these grasses exhibit a partiality for shady places. *Poa nemoralis* is one of the slender types of grass, while *Poa annua* is unique in being able to produce flowering heads at almost any time of year, even when closely mown. When these heads are in evidence it is natural that there should be some disfigurement to the turf, but nevertheless this ability to reproduce itself is one of the chief values of *Poa annua*. If it were not for this grass, some of the London squares would be almost devoid of herbage. Another grass which grows well in shaded situations, and also thrives in damp places and on heavy soil, is rough-stalked meadow grass (*Poa trivialis*), and, while this may sometimes be rather coarse, it may on occasion be used with advantage. Of the finer types often found growing in woods are wavy hair grass (*Aira flexuosa*) and fine-leaved sheep's fescue (*Festuca ovina tenuifolia*).

Special care should be taken when it is proposed to sow grass seeds near pines, for there is considerable evidence to show that the needles shed by such resiniferous trees prove toxic to the grass. It may be that a dressing of lime will help matters to some extent, but in all cases of heavy shading by trees it must be realised that there may be a necessity to renovate or resow with grass seeds each spring.

To return to the question of the fine fescues, those most



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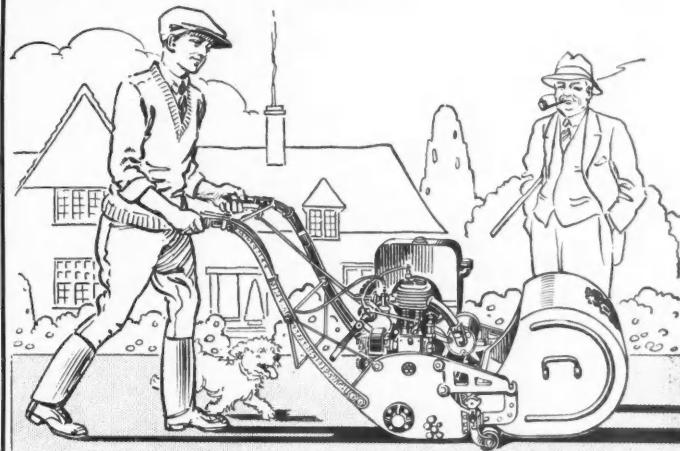
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commonly employed are red fescue (*Festuca rubra*) and hard fescue (*Festuca duriuscula*), and there are different strains of the former—in fact, the writer recently inspected some plots containing several dozen types. The fescues have small needle-like leaves and give much of the fine texture to a lawn. Hard fescue bears a characteristic glaucous green which makes its presence noticeable; sheep's fescue (*Festuca ovina*) is sometimes used, but seed of the genuine variety is difficult to obtain, and the results are not always satisfactory.

"Agrostis" or "bent" strains of grass are legion, and there are certainly scores of them known in the British Isles. But those employed generally for sporting turf can be counted on one hand,

although in America various other strains have been tried out, and appear to be more suited to the climate of the States than to that of this country. The classification of English bent is at present not definitely determined, but experiments have shown that this is the best type for winter greenness; it is, however, closely followed by New Zealand bent (*Agrostis tenuis*), which is often used for inclusion in lawn mixtures. The leaves of these grasses are somewhat broad, and give a softer appearance than the fescues, but the two in combination make an ideal sward. A finer type of agrostis is brown bent (*Agrostis canina*). Seed of this species, however, is very scarce, and experiments do not show that it is particularly hard-wearing.

MARTIN A. F. SUTTON.

SPRING SPRAYING IN GARDEN AND ORCHARD

IN gardens and orchards all over the country, preparations are afoot for the spring spraying operations, aimed to protect blossoms and foliage and the newly set fruits against destructive pests and diseases which make concerted attack during early spring. The weeks immediately ahead are, perhaps, the most critical in all the year; and when the spraying work is carried out intelligently and thoroughly, then, unquestionably, it should be completely successful and profitable. Flower beds, shrubberies, vegetable plots, etc., all have their springtime troubles with which the gardener must contend; but the gravest dangers of all beset the fruit trees. Prompt action to safeguard these is very necessary.

In the light of happenings in some gardens last season, it may not be out of place to mention here that fruit tree spraying is work that cannot rightly be regarded as an extravagance, and not wholly justified in these days of strict economy. It is, on the contrary, essentially an important item of garden and orchard routine—one upon which quality and quantity of fruit to be harvested will very largely depend, and it can be omitted only at grave risk of crops being altogether spoiled and the trees seriously handicapped for some time to come. Not one fruit garden in a hundred is so favourably situated that spraying can be neglected, without damage and loss of crop resulting.

Even though the trees were sprayed during the winter months, no wise gardener will dare to omit further spraying in spring, to control, say, the terribly prevalent scab disease which disfigures apples and pears, the big bud and reversion of black currants, and so on; while plagues of caterpillars and crippling blight are enemies of fruit trees and of most plants and shrubs as well, which have to be dealt with every spring.

With the aid of modern spraying equipment and the remarkably efficient washes, backed by timely application and conscientious labour, there need be no fear of waging a losing battle against these everyday troubles of the garden and orchard. There still are a few troublesome pests and obscure diseases which defy complete control, it is true; and equally true that most failures and disappointments that do occur might have been largely, if not entirely, avoided by a discriminating and intelligent application of the materials already available to all.

A fact which many do not appreciate fully—and which often leads to disaster—is that preventive spraying offers the greatest security—frequently the only security. Timely spraying, before foliage is curled with blight or riddled by caterpillars, before small apples are spotted with scab, before buds are hopelessly overrun with mites, etc., is essential for complete success.

Nowadays, commercial growers and keen amateurs very wisely adopt a more or less set routine of spring spraying, a sequence which experience has taught them to be most effective and economical for their particular circumstances. The details, naturally, vary with the district and how the fruit garden is stocked. Where apple trees are concerned the general experience is that scab disease, leaf-curling aphis and caterpillars are most to be feared, and spring spraying to combat these might be something like this. The trees would be sprayed three times, with lime-sulphur. A first application when small leaves unfold and flower clusters are at the "green bud" stage, using 2½ pints of the concentrated lime-sulphur, as bought, to 10 gallons of water; a second application when blossoms are at the "pink bud" stage, just before opening, using the same strength; and a third spraying after petals have fallen, then using only 1 pint of the lime-sulphur to 10 gallons of water. Some may find that one pre-blossom and one post-blossom spraying suffices. If aphis or green-fly is feared, then 1½ oz. of nicotine can be added to every 20 gallons of the diluted fungicide; if caterpillars threaten, then 1 lb. of lead arsenate paste can be dissolved in each 20 gallons.

That may be sufficient to keep the trees pest-free and the fruits sound and unblemished; but a small tin of one or other of the ready-made insecticides ought to be kept ready at hand for prompt uses, should pests persist, or spread to the trees from a neighbouring garden or orchard—a contingency always to be on guard against.

Pear trees that bear scabby and scarred fruits should be sprayed twice—just before flowers open and again when the petals have fallen—using one of the

special fungicide washes or the time-honoured Bordeaux mixture, which for pears is usually found more effective than lime-sulphur. Nicotine or lead arsenate can be added to the Bordeaux mixture in the proportions recommended for the lime-sulphur.

Lime-sulphur, again, is the wash universally used to check big-bud and reversion among black currants. But these bushes must be sprayed when first opening leaves are about the size of a sixpence and before flower trusses lengthen—not later than that; and the strength to use the wash is 5 pints of the concentrated lime-sulphur to 10 gallons of water.

If red spider infests the plums and damsons—and this pest is increasingly troublesome in most gardens—the trees should be sprayed with lime-sulphur directly flowering is over, using 1 pint to 12 gallons of water: adding 1½ oz. of nicotine to every 20 gallons of the diluted wash if the leaf-curling aphis is likely to invade the trees—which it will be if the trees were not sprayed in January with a tar distillate wash.

I have seen much damage done, and considerable wastage, by gardeners attempting to make up the lime and sulphur concentrate at home. This cannot be prepared by the amateur. One or other of the several reliable proprietary brands must be purchased from the makers.

Similarly, the various proprietary brands of insecticides and fungicides, like the well known XL-All washes, Katakilla, Pysect, and the very efficient Abol, and the several brands of sulphur and copper fungicides, are far more effective and much safer and cleaner to use than anything the gardener can concoct himself. They are more economical, because their timely use simplifies in a marked degree the growing of clean, wholesome fruits and healthy plants of all descriptions.

Exact details of the many excellent preparations available cannot be given here; but every gardener will be well advised to study the list of specialist firms and make himself familiar with their special qualities and uses, for in that direction, possibly, lies opportunity for economy and all-round improvement.

Lastly, I cannot stress too strongly the importance of using modern equipment. In scores of gardens and orchards, spraying operations fail, and there is a great waste of materials and labour, because the machine used is of obsolete pattern, badly worn or inefficient. The washes available for special purposes are as near perfect as can be wished for, yet they must fail to justify the claims made for them unless applied thoroughly and forcefully with an efficient machine.

A serviceable, easily worked spraying machine for the average small orchard and well stocked garden is the pneumatic knapsack sprayer, of a well known make, such as the widely used Four Oaks, the Martsmith, the Abol, and others.

When there are many standard trees to deal with, or numbers of tallish bush trees, then some type of small wheeled machine, such as the excellent Four Oaks Barrel Sprayer, should be employed; or perhaps a powerful "Headland" sprayer—which type of machine has been vastly improved in recent years. More recently, small motor-driven cultivators, like the Auto-Culto and Simar Rototiller, have been adapted to take spraying equipment, and these are admirably suited for use in large gardens and small orchards. These machines, which are economical to run, are used primarily for cultivating the ground throughout the season, but are easily adapted for spraying purposes they do the job remarkably well, save labour, and give that high pressure and extra power which are so important.

For spraying in smaller gardens there are extremely efficient appliances, ranging from the small continuous spraying syringes of the Abol and Four Oaks types to the handy bucket-sprayers of the Four Oaks, the Martsmith and other patterns.

The lists of well known manufacturing firms illustrate the wide range of machines, large and small, specially adapted to meet every possible requirement, that are at the gardener's disposal; and, before entering upon the spring programme of spraying—upon the thoroughness of which so much will depend—this question of suitable equipment should be given careful attention.

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NOTHING, perhaps, could better emphasise the increasing interest in plants and gardening than the enormous and unceasing output of gardening literature. The stream of new books dealing with every conceivable aspect and branch of horticulture and gardening continues to flow almost as swiftly as the stream of plant novelties, which is saying a good deal; and there is no excuse for the gardener lacking a ready and convenient source of service and information on almost any of the hundred and one problems that confront him.

Among the more recent newcomers to the gardener's library, none is worthy of more attention than *Delphiniums, Their History and Cultivation*, by G. A. Philips (Thornton Butterworth, 10s. 6d.). Unless I am much mistaken, this is likely to become the standard work on the subject. The author, well known both as a grower and exhibitor of delphiniums, writes from first-hand knowledge and wide practical experience, and combines his information with a clear and attractive style that blends palatably with his subject. It covers every detail relating to the cultivation, breeding and exhibition of delphiniums, supplemented by descriptive lists of varieties and species. The history and development of the plant is outlined, while its uses and place in the garden are also dealt with. The chapter on species of delphiniums is of particular interest and brings together in convenient form a list of all the most worthy species for the border and rock garden, though the attractive D. Wellbyi from Abyssinia is for some reason or other omitted. So little has been written previously about wild delphiniums that this comprehensive descriptive list, embracing many of the recent introductions from China should do much to encourage the cultivation of some of these most charming species, whose singular grace and purity of colouring add distinction to any border. Every keen grower of delphiniums will find it an invaluable reference book, while to the novice it will serve as a most useful and practical guide that is completely up to date. If there be any criticism it is, perhaps, on the score of the illustrations, and more particularly the colour reproductions, which leave considerable room for improvement in their execution.

Also for the lover of hardy flowers comes a new and thoroughly revised and enlarged edition, the fifteenth, of that standard work of William Robinson's, *The English Flower Garden* (John Murray, 18s.). No book on flower gardening is better known and none more highly valued, both as a reference work to the advanced gardener and as an authoritative and practical guide to the beginner. The appearance of the fifteenth edition, embodying most of the old features but with many additions to the text and many new half-tone illustrations, including a chapter on noteworthy plants of recent introduction and revised lists of hardy plants to bring them completely up to date, is an event worth noting by all gardeners and especially by those who do not possess a copy of this acknowledged classic on English flower gardening. Even now, fifty years after its publication, it has neither lost its interest nor its flavour, and no one who gardens can afford to be without such an invaluable survey of hardy plants and their use in the garden.

Under a new and more comprehensive title—*Wall, Water and Woodland Gardens* (Country Life, 15s. net)—another standard work, *Wall and Water Gardens*, by that close associate of William Robinson, the late Miss Gertrude Jekyll, makes its eighth appearance in a completely revised form containing numerous new illustrations and two new chapters on Woodland Gardening and The Asiatic Primulas, which bring this book universally acknowledged the most trustworthy practical guide on rock, wall and water gardening, into line with modern tastes and tendencies. No one was more qualified than Miss Jekyll to offer advice on the choice and picturesque use and arrangement of plants for woodland effect, and the new chapter, which came from her pen only a few weeks before her death last autumn, is a charming essay on the subject, revealing her sound practical knowledge and discriminating taste, and pointing the way to the methods to be adopted and the plants to be chosen to ensure the most picturesque effects in the woodland garden. The chapter on the Asiatic primulas is an informative and detailed survey of the best and most reliable members of this handsome race for the furnishing of the waterside, woodland, and rock garden, and it should assist all gardeners to succeed with them.

If the beginner in gardening is well catered for by a number of general books covering every branch of gardening on broad lines and supplying much detailed cultural information, such as *The Complete Book of Gardening*, by Mr. Coutts and Mr. Osborne of Kew (Ward, Lock and Co.); *Gardening for Beginners* (Country Life); and *The Complete Amateur Gardener* (Cassell); the specialist gardener, whether interested in trees and shrubs, rock plants, roses, bulbs, fruit trees, or particular groups of hardy plants, is no less so. It is needless to speak highly of Mr. W. J. Bean's *Trees and Shrubs Hardy in the British Isles* (John Murray). It is a book for every garden library; and the same applies to Farrer's *English Rock Garden* (Nelson). A new volume on *Trees and Shrubs*, by Mr. A. Osborn, just published by Messrs. Ward, Lock, is considerably more up to date and is likely to be of more service to the novice than Bean's larger work. Wilson's monograph is the accepted work on the *Eastern Asiatic Lilies* (Dulau and Co.); while a *Handbook on Crocus and Colchicum* and a *Handbook on Irises*, both published by Martin Hopkinson, are the best books on their respective genera and *Notes on Tulip Species* (Herbert Jenkins) presents the most authoritative survey of tulip species at present known. Those who want a guide to the making, maintenance and general treatment of lawns will find that *The Book of the Lawn*, by Reginald Beale (Cassell), and Messrs. Sutton's booklet on *Lawns*, will fill all their needs.

In most gardening libraries there is room for a book on wild flowers, and the gardener who is an embryo botanist could have no better pocket companion on his country rambles than Miss Hilda M. Coley's delightful little book, *Wild Flowers Round the Year* (Gerald Howe, 5s.). Charmingly written and no less charmingly illustrated by sixteen plates, four of which are in colour, reproductions of the author's own accurate drawings, it is a wholly admirable introduction to the study of some of our commoner natives and will whet the appetite for further field exploration and discovery. With the eye of the trained observer coupled with a facile pen, Miss Coley has provided a most illuminating and fascinating little guide for those who delight in wild flowers but know little of their ways and are anxious to become more closely acquainted with them.

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If motor cars and aeroplanes are already old enough to have their biographies written, the history of flats should provide at least a subject for a university thesis. Most people, if they have thought about the matter at all, seem to take it for granted that flats are an American invention. But neither the word nor the idea is Transatlantic in origin. "That comfortable, airy, roomy, first-flat, consisting of dining-room, parlour, three bedrooms," Mrs. Johnstone could write in her

Edinburgh Tales. Both in its form and its epithets the sentence has such a familiar ring that it is difficult to believe that it was penned nearly a hundred years ago.

Edinburgh, however, had evolved the flat long before the dawn of the nineteenth century, and so Mrs. Johnstone is able to write of one with the suave assurance of the estate agent describing property of a thoroughly familiar type that needs neither elaborate explanation nor comment on its novelty. Yet one may doubt whether, in England in the early eighteen-forties, the use of the word "flat" would have been generally intelligible. The *Oxford Dictionary*, probing into origins, tells us that "flat" is an alteration of the old English word "flet," influenced by the adjective with which it once had nothing to do, and that "the word was until recently peculiar to Scotland where the original form survived into the present century." (The present century must be interpreted as the *nineteenth*, not the twentieth.) Further research shows that this word "flet" meant a hall or dwelling, and so "house-room." "Fire and flet" is an old north country expression for "hearth and home," which occurs in the traditional lyke-wake song,

Fire and flet and candlelight
And Christ receive thy sawle.

So much for the word and its surprisingly romantic ancestry. For good or bad the noun "flat" has now come to be used exclusively in the sense of a floor or flat cross-section of a house. Doubtless, the two ideas became readily confused in that early Edinburgh where one's home or "flet" was confined to a single floor in one of those high buildings that grew up on the slopes of the Old Town. The building of "sky-scrappers" in Edinburgh (they were probably the tallest houses erected by man before the nineteenth century) was due to economic necessity. Confined to the Castle Hill and its eastward extension, the burghers for centuries dared not build outside the city walls. Unable to expand outwards they built upwards, and houses of eight, nine and ten storeys arose on either side of the long High Street.

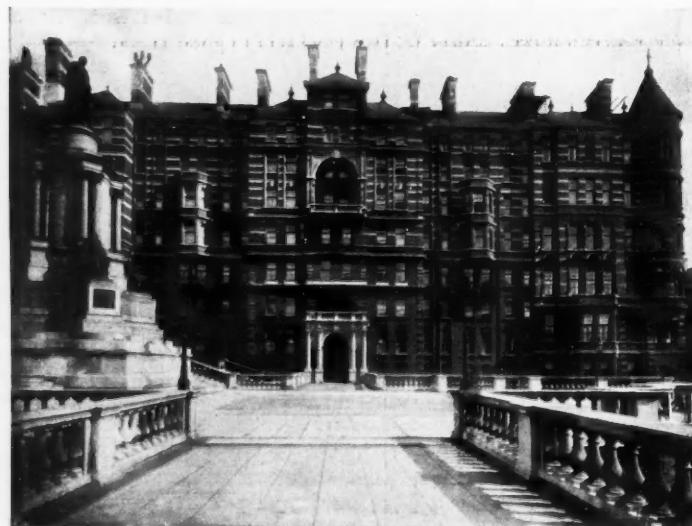


EARLY "FLATS" IN OLD EDINBURGH. MILNE'S COURT (1690)

street it presents a front of seven storeys, but behind, where the ground slopes steeply down, it is of still greater height.

These buildings in the Old Town of Edinburgh, which have now sunk for the most part to the status of tenement houses, were until the middle of the eighteenth century the residences of well-to-do people. It was not till George III was on the throne that the expansion of Edinburgh began in earnest with the great town-planning scheme of the New Town beyond the Nor' Loch, and with the lay-out of other streets and squares to the south of the Castle Hill. Even then the habit of flat-building was so ingrained that in the new parts of Edinburgh many of the houses were designed from the first as flats, and one comes with surprise on eighteenth century buildings, each floor of which is a separate house planned as a self-contained flat with kitchen and servants' accommodation.

In view of modern developments it is amusing to find Sir Walter Scott writing more than a century ago of "the conveniences of an English dwelling-house" which the wealthier inhabitants of Edinburgh were imitating "instead of living piled up above each other in flats." To-day the boot is on the other leg. It is the inconveniences of the London town house which are driving more and more people to adopt the Edinburgh system of living. Flat-building in London did not commence much before the seventies and eighties of last century. One of the earliest and also one of the largest is the hideous block, fourteen storeys high, on the south side of St. James's Park, erected in 1884. Its enormous height was one of the main reasons for the passing of the London Building Act, restricting elevations to 80ft. from the pavement to cornice level. In 1888 a company was incorporated owning half a dozen flat properties which is now one of the many associated companies forming the Mansions Bureau. The numerous blocks of mansion flats owned by these companies in almost every part of London give one a conspectus of the astonishing growth and development of flat properties during the last forty years. All these blocks, comprising about 5,000 flats, were built



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A new block, recently opened, of which Messrs. Folkard & Hayward are Sole Agents.



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BICKENHALL (or) PORTMAN MANSIONS.

A most convenient situation, opposite Baker Street Station.

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Moderately facilities in every form.

Rentals from **£200 per annum inclusive**

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No. 69

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(containing photos, indexed map, travel routes, etc.), which is invaluable to home-seekers.

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THERE IS A CHARM ABOUT A LIFE ANNUITY!

It seems to carry with it long life and contentment. The fortunate person who has an annuity may well say "let the insurance directors carry the responsibility of the investment of my money, whilst I live on to the enjoyment of old age."

An extraordinary feature which statistics of death rates reveal is that persons on whose lives annuities are bought live on the average longer than persons who, after medical examination by practised doctors, are passed as sound, healthy lives for Life Insurance, whilst these in their turn live much longer than the general population. For example: Out of 1,000 males aged 55 the number who survive to age 85 is:—

168—Annuitants.

151—Insured Lives.

94—General Population, England and Wales.

To those who are not under any obligation to preserve their capital intact, the purchase of a life annuity offers a ready means of increasing their income and at the same time of making absolutely sure that such increased income will be received with unfailing regularity until the end of their days.

The present rates for annuities in the "London and Manchester" are particularly attractive in these days of investment uncertainty.

Specially attractive annuity contracts assuring husband and wife a life income until the death of the last survivor are also issued.

Rates for either form of annuity quoted—without obligation—on application.

This Company was established in 1869, and is one of the oldest, most progressive, and strongest Life Assurance institutions in the world.

It transacts Annuity, Life, Fire, Accident, Motor and other classes of Insurance.

Its total Life Assurances exceed 48 million pounds.

Its Bonus records and Bonus prospects are unexcelled.

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ASSURANCE CO., LTD.,**
FINSBURY SQUARE, LONDON, E.C.2.

as mansion flats (and include no converted properties), so that one could, if one chose, follow the whole course of flat design and planning in London from the 'eighties onwards. Many of them, having been built on sites where more land was available than there is to-day, have large gardens for the tenants' use, such as are enjoyed by residents in the eighteenth century London squares.

The years since the War have seen the latest development in flat building, the modern luxury block of many storeys sometimes incorporating restaurants, swimming pools and other features derived from the modern hotel or the ocean-going liner. The analogy with the liner is, indeed, a very close one, and would be closer still if our architects had been more ready to adopt the innovations in exterior design—the stressing of horizontals and the continuous treatment of windows—which gives to many contemporary German buildings the appearance of a succession of superimposed decks. At the same time, what may be called the "communal" features of these buildings are not introduced at the expense of the privacy of the individual flats. Improved isolating materials have rendered the modern flat virtually noise-proof, and ingenious planning has made it possible to introduce separate tradesmen's lifts so that each flat has both a front door and a "back door." The loss of the garden which most of the earlier flats possess is to some extent compensated for by the innovation of the roof garden, while each year brings with it some new improvement in all those labour-saving devices that are the great advantages which flats have to offer.

It remains to be seen in what directions flat architecture will develop in the future. From the closes of Old Edinburgh to the huge modern flat building is a far enough cry. There are signs, however, that the demand for the luxury flat has now been satisfied, at any rate for the time being, and that during the next few years the tendency will be towards buildings of more modest dimensions with smaller flats at lower rentals.

CHOOSING A FLAT

IN looking for a flat it is difficult always to find exactly what one wants, and it is here that some guidance is often helpful. The Mansions Bureau (116, Park Street, W.1) is a firm with a very wide experience, controlling some 5,000 flats situated in all the best residential districts. As every flat is owned and managed by the organisation, one can be sure of obtaining just the help and advice one needs, and with so large a number of flats to choose from the problem of discovering "the right one" is very considerably simplified.

An ideal position for a West End flat is in Cumberland Court, a new block of flats recently opened in Cumberland Place. The position is very central, within a minute's walk of Hyde Park and close to the Marble Arch Tube Station, yet sufficiently far back from Oxford Street to be out of the noise of traffic. These flats are planned and equipped with the most modern conveniences, and comprise lounge hall, large reception-room, dining-room, and from one to three bedrooms, at the very moderate rents of from £210 to £350 inclusive. The letting of these flats is in the hands of Messrs. Folkard and Hayward, 115, Baker Street.

Messrs. Bertram and Curtis, 38, New Cavendish Street, have to offer a large flat with five bedrooms, two bathrooms and three reception rooms, in a most attractive position overlooking the gardens of Buckingham Palace; and also several service flats in Mayfair at rents from 5 guineas a week.

Portland Place, with its fine wide street of dignified eighteenth century houses, is an ideal situation for a flat in town. Messrs. J. Crosby and Co. (232-8, Bishopsgate, E.C.2) have to offer a large maisonette with five bedrooms, two reception-rooms, lounge hall and two bathrooms in this position. The same firm also offer flats in Burton Court, Chelsea, at rents ranging from £250.

North End House, W.14, is a fine modern block of luxury flats which may be had at very moderate rents (from £210 to £350 inclusive). The flats are centrally situated in the vicinity of Olympia, and have the unusual attraction of being built round a large private garden.

For anyone who prefers to live on the outskirts of London some new flats at Greystone Park, Hanger Lane, W.5, have special attractions. They are easily accessible from town, being within a few minutes' walk of three tube stations, and there are golf links and tennis courts in the immediate neighbourhood. The rents are from £80 to £160. Messrs. Percy Bilton, Limited (113, Park Street, W.1), are the agents.

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A few yards from Hyde Park.

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LIFE ASSURANCE AS AN INVESTMENT

By D. CAMERON-FORRESTER.

LIFE assurance is at all times a safe and sound form of investment. Where a wise choice of contract is made it is also a most profitable one.

The individual who decides to invest a proportion of income in life assurance secures a unique advantage, because with his very first deposit he creates immediately a very much larger potential capital sum which is available for family protection in the event of his early death. He also gains income-tax relief through the rebate he is entitled to claim off his deposits, and when income tax is at a high rate, as it is at present, this rebate becomes an appreciable saving of tax.

Last year a number of the life offices temporarily reduced their rate of bonus on policies which shared in profits in view of the difficult financial conditions then prevailing, while others established contingency funds for the stabilisation of future bonuses. A number of offices which adopted one or other of these courses have already declared increased bonuses in the present year, and in a number of good offices bonuses at the rate of £2 per cent. or over are obtainable.

Let us assume, however, that an average bonus of only £2 per cent. per annum would be the future profit distributed throughout the duration of a policy in the next twenty years, and see, in round figures, how an average twenty-year endowment assurance would work out as an investment on this conservative basis. Taking the average premium required as being £50 a year per £1,000 assured at age thirty, and allowing for the income tax rebate claimable off it at the present rate of 2s. 6d. in the pound, the net annual cost would be £43 15s.

If the policy-holder survives, the bonus of £2 per cent. per annum will have increased the original £1,000 of policy by £400, so that the transaction works out as follows :

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------|
| Policy at maturity | £1,400 |
| Less net premiums | 875 |
| Profit over net cost | £525 |

This ultimate profit, it should be emphasised, would go tax-free, while if the income tax rebate remains unaltered, the policy-holder will have saved a total of £125 in tax off his gross deposits. There is, of course, no other form of investment by means of which one can save income tax on moneys saved or invested, while the increasing life assurance protection afforded by the policy throughout a period of twenty years must not be overlooked.

It is, of course, quite possible to obtain policies which, in actual practice, would show a much better result than the above example, which I have given merely to demonstrate the salient difference between life assurance and other forms of investment.

An increasingly popular form of life assurance contract with family men in the last few years is what is known generically as the "family income" type. These contracts mostly ensure that if the husband should die at any time within twenty years of effecting the policy a cash sum and also an income will be paid to the family until the expiration of twenty years from the original date of the policy. They may be had with many variations in either whole life or endowment form. In the event of early death, however, the total sums payable to one's dependents would come to very much more than the nominal face value of the policy.

Perhaps I can best illustrate this by explaining the working of one of the latest schemes. This is a special endowment payable at sixty, and nominally it is for a guaranteed £1,238. But should death occur at any time prior to age sixty, the family would commence to receive immediately an income of £104 per annum in quarterly instalments, the first instalment being payable at death. This income would continue right up to the date when, had the policy-holder lived, he would have reached sixty, when it would cease and a cash sum of £1,238 would be paid the beneficiaries. Now, if the policy had been taken out at age thirty, say, and the policy-holder died ten years later, there would be paid in income over twenty years £2,080 altogether and then £1,238 in cash, a total of £3,318. If the policy-holder survived, however, he has the option of selecting an annuity of £104 per annum, payable in quarterly instalments and commencing at age sixty, in lieu of the cash payment of £1,238. Of course, policies for larger amounts than I have used as an example may be effected, the benefits being in exact proportion.

It is not surprising that, since the completion of the War Loan Conversion Scheme, there has been an increased tendency to invest in annuities, because the shrinkage in the yield from one's capital can thus be made good by re-investing a proportion only of it in an annuity. Where the bulk of capital is so re-invested, however, it is quite possible in a good office, even at comparatively early ages, to secure a return which may more than double the yield from securities. It is possible for a man of sixty-five, for example, to secure a return in excess of 10 per cent. per annum. The objection that capital sunk in an annuity may be lost in the event of early death can be surmounted by means of special contracts which guarantee the return of capital in full.

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For the Easter
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THE CHARM OF SATIN
AND TULLE AND THE
ORIGINALITY OF THE
WEDDING HEAD-DRESS



A beautiful wedding gown of ivory satin used on the reverse side, and veiled with tulle sown with satin stars glittering with silver beads and diamond dewdrops. The gown, as well as the suggestions for new and striking bridal head-dresses, is from Debenham and Freebody, Wigmore Street, W., whose dress parades were among the features of last week



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**KNITWEAR
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CL 350.—Knitted Coat and Skirt in smartly checked Tweed effect. Skirt box-pleated back and front. In brown and beige check.

£4 18 6

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COUNTRY HATS

The Right Modes for Morning
and Sports Attire



Country hats require as careful study as town models, and the fame of F. Woodrow and Sons, 46, Piccadilly, W.1., for this type of headgear is unquestioned. The two hats on the left are in a new soft Angora fabric, and in midnight blue moufflon and straw with a feather quill.

Cuffs to match the hat are one of the latest vagaries of fashion, and in the case of this attractive Woodrow "cap" there are long gauntlets in the same cherry-coloured peter-sham as that of which the cap is made.

The model at the top of this page has been carried out by Woodrow in natural wheaten Perde straw. This is admirably adapted for sports wear or to accompany a tailor-made suit, and can be packed without injury.



Dorothy Wilding

A Sailor for the Older Woman

NEW LINES: A squarish folded crown and a brim turned down in front and rolled slightly up at the back. A hat equally suitable for country or town. In two contrasting colours **2½ gns.**; in one colour **2 gns.**

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CHARGES
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THE MAISON ROSS

The "Perfect Race-Coat" as shown in the "10 guinea Ready-to-Wear collection," at 19, Grafton Street, W. 1. Light, yet warm, the Galalite and Chromium buttons add a touch of sophistication.

THE FULL COLLECTION
AT THIS PRICE IS NOW
BEING SHOWN. 1st FLOOR.

NEW SPRING MILLINERY

The becoming downward tilt is to be almost universal

Everyone enjoys choosing a new hat in spring; and, now that we are no longer entirely dominated by the little brimless hat or, again—to go farther back for a millinerial tyranny of bygone years—by the tiny cloche, we have ample opportunity of suiting our own particular styles. The tendency is, of course, to tilt the hat slightly forward over the nose, just as it was in the days when women wore chignons or chenille nets; and this is charmingly illustrated in this quartet of spring modes, all of which come from Liberty and Co., Regent Street.



New straws and simple trimmings are the rage

Among the new straws, Woolvisca—a mixture of straw and wool—is high in favour. The little hat shown at the top of the group is fashioned of this material, and as a hat of this kind requires little or no decoration, the trimming consists of nothing more than narrow petersham ribbon. Another straw, which likewise finds favour with the authorities at Liberty's, is Bengale, and this is illustrated in the model shown below, the straw being in a light shade of tan. It is one of the new modified sailors worn with the downward tilt which is so fashionable.



The brim takes many different forms



An amusing and charming development of the coolie type of hat returns to favour, and with the dainty afternoon frocks of to-day it seems likely to prove specially successful. The line is a very becoming one, as will be seen in the case of the Liberty hat at the bottom of the page. For sunny days it will prove a delightfully comfortable form of headgear, and casts a very attractive shadow over the eyes. The example in question is of black pedal straw allied to a soft mandarin yellow. The last of the quartet is in bouclé flax straw, carried out in a shade of dull blue. It is trimmed with petersham ribbon, the bow being placed right at the back.

Many charming examples of millinery also appeared last week in conjunction with the new dresses shown at Liberty's during the immensely popular dress parade which inaugurated the connection of M. Paul Poiret with this firm. M. Poiret, has lost none of his striking originality and individuality, and while, at the same time, his ideas were cleverly adapted to bring out the best points of an English figure, one or two very stately and charming gowns suggested the dresses of the Italian Renaissance. Many other lovely Liberty gowns, in addition to those of M. Poiret, were likewise shown, including little tailor-made gowns for morning or country wear, beautifully cut and made of the newest tweeds.

If you are not slim

J8. Afternoon Model in Black georgette with black lace embroidered motif at neck and sleeves, lined flesh Pink. Also in all the Season's newest shades. Price - 9½ gns.



J25. Beautifully tailored coat and skirt in Grey Honeycomb woollen material. The scarf is lined coral pink. Also in mushroom brown, medium and light beige. Price - 6½ gns.

It's when you are not so slim that the question of dress becomes more difficult.

Foolish then even to consider clothes designed specifically for slimmer figures. Infinitely wiser to come to Jane Fergusson, who specialises in smart clothes for the woman who is not so slim. Or write for a book of 32 new season's models.

Jane Fergusson
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London Street, London, W.1.
Regent 1883



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by Debenham & Freebody

MONS. HABETIN
MR. MOSS

Announcement—

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HE appointment has been made of Mr. MOSS the well-known West End tailor, whose distinctive creations are widely appreciated

Mr. Moss has taken up his duties with the House, and engagements may be made for his individual service

The Illustration—

Tailored Suit, the slightly flared skirt in bold check, with plain tweed coat introducing a novel chromium fastening, coat completed with scarf of skirt material. In neutral and other shades.

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This hat can be supplied in all sizes, in Grey, Champagne, Brown, Beige, Cedar or Black, or any shade dyed to order in 5 days.
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WHAT WILL BE WORN IN APRIL

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FROM the plain classic tailor-made to the evening gown, fashion is ringing so many changes that it is more than difficult to keep up with them. The light "top," with the dark skirt, which reminds one in a way of Edwardian fashions and gave an added grace to the past styles, is to be seen among the new items, and one of these—which comes to us from Barri, Ltd., 33, New Bond Street, W.1—is shown on this page. The skirt and coat are of a soft black woollen material, and the "top" is of rose-petal satin in a shade of clotted cream, with a clip and chain forming the fastening, a little black hat completing the scheme. It is a wonderful contrast to the little grey flannel suit—another *chef d'œuvre* from Barri—which is shown on page xcvi., with a pencil line of black running diagonally through it and a little strap and buckle behind. As a finish to the scheme there is a grey felt hat trimmed with black corded silk ribbon



A CHARMING AFTERNOON GOWN (from Barri, Ltd.)

and a green-shaded cock's feather. Both these were among the lovely *toilettes* shown at the dress parade of the firm last week, which was an epoch-making occasion in itself.

Satin seems to be having a vogue which has never been excelled. Besides the *ciré* satin which gleams under electric light as though it has been steeped in water, satin proper, used on both sides, is an immense favourite for evening wear. At the wonderful dress show of Maison Arthur, Limited, 17, Dover Street, which was given at the Mayfair Hotel, I noticed a beautiful evening gown of black satin, the *décolletage* "stippled" at the edge with strands of red, black and gold and carried round to the back, where it ended in what looked like a long sash end of gold fringe. Another fascinating gown was black and white spotted muslin with currant-red ruches outlining the armholes.

And, though black is so popular, pale pastel shades are equally in evidence. At the Maison Ross's dress show (19, Grafton Street), a satin gown of the palest cream pink struck me as particularly lovely, as did the beautiful satin wedding gown, with its long tulle veil falling from a plaited coronal and forming the train, the whole set off by a bunch of deep red roses which the bride carried. Dress shows, in fact, reveal something new every day, whether it is the millinery, which at first glance seems so difficult



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to wear and at the next appears so becoming. Liseré straw—which, to my mind, was always one of the most attractive of the summer straws—is with us again, and at Edna's, 21A, Sloane Street, S.W.1, I saw a most attractive liseré straw hat, like a very close shepherd's plaid, the brim being turned back and threaded with grass-green angel's skin ribbon. Then there was a little "porkpie," which might have been a relic of the 'seventies and was very high behind and trimmed with narrow black petersham, tiny lacquered quills and a little veil. Edna, too, had a mixture of liseré and pedal straws in a wood brown inlet with brown stockinette and trimmed with a straw bow and a red and yellow quill. At Ross's were to be seen some of the charming little patterned silk afternoon frocks with the new "wall-paper" designs which are most attractive in black and white with a touch of cherry colour.

At the dress show, too, at Reville's, Limited, 15, Hanover Square, W.1, I noticed one of the new hats with an almost conical crown and turned-down brim, which was allied to a lovely gown of black satin with a pale lavender sash; and another of the charming *toilettes* shown on this occasion was a suit with plaid skirt and dark blue velvet coat over a snow-white waistcoat. I saw, too, at the same showrooms, the trained evening wrap which, though not so practical as some of the others worn on the same occasion, was very stately and dignified.

Everyone is talking and thinking of cruising just now. As a matter of fact, "a life on the ocean wave" seems to be almost an obsession, and to buy the

right outfit for a month or so at sea requires real care and attention. The British Cruising Exhibition, organised in co-operation with the Canadian Pacific, which Marshall and Snelgrove, Limited, Oxford Street, gave last Monday, naturally attracted an immense amount of attention, and women who were on the point of starting on their travels and are already making their choice of clothes have derived the utmost benefit from it. The *toilettes* chosen were not only in the best of taste, but they were absolutely practical as well, and must have solved many difficult problems.

Talking of cruising, reminds me of the excellent little hat for travel or sports wear that has just been brought out by Jenners (Princes Street, Edinburgh). It is made in a light woollen material, tucked and finished with a band of petersham ribbon, and is the smartest of the smart; yet it can be crammed into any corner of the suitcase or even into one's pocket.

It is not a far cry from the subject of millinery and frocks to that of the complexion. An excellent liquid preparation for these days, when the skin roughens and reddens so easily with exposure to spring winds, is the Lily Sulphur Lotion from Eleanor Adair, the well known beauty specialist of 30, Old Bond Street, as well as Paris and Brussels. This lotion, which is priced at 4s. 6d. a bottle, and is worth every penny of it, is a cooling and beautifying preparation and, besides softening the skin, rids it of sunburn. It is prepared according to the prescription of an eminent physician, and is likewise excellent for mosquito bites or skin irritation.

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FROM THE EDITOR'S BOOKSHELF
BIOGRAPHY, FICTION AND TRAVEL

Gladstone, by Francis Birrell. (Duckworth, 2s.)

THIRTY years ago this book would undoubtedly have been written by Augustine Birrell. To-day Mr. Francis Birrell has proved that in matters of biography he is by no means an unworthy successor of his father. His sketch of Gladstone's life makes no pretence beyond that of giving an unbiased narrative of his career and of the part he played in Victorian politics, and a balanced estimate of his character, and in both of these aims he has succeeded. His account of the virtuous and exasperating dullness of Gladstone's youth is as good as the succeeding narrative of the storm and stress of after years, and the summary of the concluding episodes, the Parnell business and the final affair of Lord Spencer's Naval Estimates, is excellent. He has a sound view of Gladstone's mind. Compared with Disraeli he lacked originality, and Mr. Birrell remarks upon his passion for "never wasting time." Disraeli, on the other hand, never minded having to waste an hour on a railway station, "as one can always think." There is also the charming story of Gladstone's deep chagrin and disappointment when, going over Chequers, he came upon a parrot which spoke modern Greek, and, having enthusiastically addressed to it a long passage of Homer, failed to receive a reply. But in spite of his lack of humour and sense of proportion, Gladstone had nothing mediocre in his nature, a fact never better put than by Mr. Balfour in his speech on Gladstone's death.

Britain and the War Debts, by Leonard J. Reid. (Herbert Jenkins, 2s. 6d.)

THERE is no subject which ought to be more thoroughly understood by intelligent men to-day than that of the War debts and their intolerable effects on the post-War world; and Mr. Leonard Reid is obviously just the person to explain these matters with clearness and simplicity to the reader who has not followed the matter closely or is not particularly well equipped so far as economic information goes. Many questions are involved. How were the War debts created? Are they owed by Government to Government or by citizens to citizens? How were they "funded" after the War? Why have they proved so disastrous? Why is it in the interest of America as well as of Europe that they should be drastically revised? What are the chances of an amicable settlement, and what would such a settlement mean? These are some of the questions which Mr. Reid sets out to answer, and which he does answer very well and clearly. At the moment the average Englishman considers War debts largely from the point of view of their American repercussions, and from that point of view Mr. Reid has been wise in reprinting the Balfour Note as well as the British Note of last December. His little book is, however, by no means an attempt at propaganda, but, rather, a statement of indisputable facts. Sir Robert Horne, in his Introduction, lays stress on the point that during the War itself the British taxpayer found the colossal sum of £2,700,000,000 to meet current expenditure, and that to meet the difference between his sum and the total expenditure of £9,500,000,000 we borrowed £850,000,000 from the U.S.A. as against £6,000,000,000 from our own people. If cancellation were to take place to-day, our concessions to our Allies would amount to eighteen hundred millions; those of America to seventeen hundred. It is facts like these which the Englishman should know.

And all for What? Some War Time Experiences, by D. W. J. Cuddeford. (Heath Cranton, 7s. 6d.)

THIS is a book entirely out of the common, and not by any means to be confused with the more literary comments on the War as seen through the amateur soldier's eyes to which we have for so long been accustomed. The author was in Nigeria when war broke out, and soon after returned to England and enlisted in the Scots Guards. Mr. Stephen Graham has given us an account of his experiences under instruction at Caterham while in the ranks of the Guards, and Mr. Cuddeford gives us his. They are both equally sincere, we are sure, but they somehow convey very different impressions, which is only saying that different people view the same things and the same experiences very differently. Mr. Cuddeford has a great admiration for the N.C.O. instructors

to whose high quality he attributes the efficiency of the Guards, and whose rigid discipline he considers the best preparation for actual warfare. In 1916 he received a commission in the H.L.I. and was sent out to the 15th Division at the tail end of the Somme attack. After a winter of terrible trench warfare he was at Arras, and then in the Salient. He takes a generous view of the mistakes and blunders of warfare in which he and his comrades were—to their thinking—often unnecessarily involved. Fighting of the type encountered on the Western Front, as he says, could only be learnt by fighting, and he tells us a pathetic story of a cavalry brigadier who, wishing to see his men in action, refused his advice to take cover and walked boldly forward, only to be shot dead. Mr. Cuddeford, somewhat naturally, reflects on the contrast between the fate of the lifelong professional soldier and the amateurs who had "mucked about" so long that they knew the game.

The Trumpet in The Dust, by Constance Holme. (Oxford University Press, 2s.)

Five Three-Act Plays. With a Foreword by W. G. Fay. (Rich and Cowan, 5s.)

One-Act Plays, by Constance Holme. (J. B. Pinker and Son, 1s.)

THE third of Miss Constance Holme's books to appear in "The World's Classics" is one which many of her readers rank as her finest, for *The Trumpet in The Dust* holds within the frame of one day's life in an English village a picture of courage and pathos, of life and tragedy which has not often been equalled in modern fiction. Miss Holme's understanding of the minds and motives of humble people, exquisite in its sympathy and entirely devoid of condescension, is a beautiful thing. Primarily a dramatist, she has the perfect selective instinct; her incident, her speech are those that carry the fullest meaning to her reader. Among the *Five Three-Act Plays*, published by Messrs. Rich and Cowan, appears "I Want," Miss Holme's extraordinarily interesting fantasy produced at the Grafton Theatre in 1931. The "Home of Vision," which is one of those bound together in *Four Plays*, is also to be included in "Best One-Act Plays of 1932," published by Messrs. Harrap.

England Their England, by A. G. Macdonell. (Macmillan, 7s. 6d.)

IF ever there was a salutary powder concealed in delicious literary jam, it is hidden in this amusing and witty book. In his story of the doings and experiences of Donald Cameron, a young Scotsman come to London after the War to write a book about England, Mr. Macdonell has written a skit—it is too light-hearted to be called a satire—on our follies and inconsistencies that leaves us laughing at ourselves: sometimes, perhaps, a little ashamed of ourselves. The fun begins with Donald's first encounter with the editor of a literary weekly and his satellites—in a "pub." Thereafter he gets his ideas of English living and thinking from a country cricket match, a country house party, largely of bright young people whose adjectives of the moment are "grisly" and "grim"; a political meeting, an expensive golf club, and a Rugby International. Also he learns something about reviewing and dramatic criticism—the latter as practised on the Sunday night productions of Societies for the Improvement of the Drama. Mr. Macdonell, one suspects, got a great deal of enjoyment out of writing this book, which is really witty as well as funny; but no more than he has given to one at least of his readers. K. K.

Nobody Starves, by Catherine Brody. (Collins, 7s. 6d.)

THIS book should be sub-titled "Portrait of a Slump." The slump is the one that overtook the United States last year, and has its sequel in the present crisis which has left Americans in this country, as well as at home, with empty pockets—so far as hard cash is concerned. The portrait of the slump is made up of a score of smaller portraits of its helpless victims: principally of two of those victims, Bill and Molly: newly married, happy and hopeful at the beginning of the story; unhappy, separated and hopeless at the end—thanks to the slump. The setting is Detroit, and another city called MicMac. Bill and Molly, after their marriage, go on working, in a motor car factory; and before they are thrown out of

work their experiences give us, incidentally, an idea of mass production methods, of the speeding up of the worker in a soulless job, making the same mechanical movement a thousand thousand times—a mere part of the human machine. In her portraits of Bill and Molly, Miss Brody, one feels, has drawn those of thousands of such workers, pitiful victims of the machine which, as the slump grew, had less and less use for them. And when poverty comes in at the door . . . But even Molly, trying to make the best of things, trying to put some heart into the disheartened Bill over a supper of scraps, had to realise that "it was useless to struggle with a mood that had reached the final hell of failure, where all that is wanted and all that is asked for is affirmation in hopelessness." No, perhaps nobody starves, of bodily food, even in a great slump. But a soul can be starved in the kindest soup kitchen. And it is her picture of what unemployment and hunger, even the threat and fear of unemployment, can do to the morale of the human beings who are parts of the great industrial machine that makes Miss Brody's book not only a good and human story, a searing story not easily forgotten, but also a document of definite sociological importance. K. K.

A Hillside Man, by Con O'Leary. (Lovat Dickson, 7s. 6d.)

MR. CON O'LEARY'S *A Hillside Man* entirely justifies the reputation he has already made by his earlier novels, "This Delicate Creature" and "Break of Day." The central figure of his story is one Conal McDermott, born on the night of the Catholic Emancipation of 1829, and the record of whose patriotism and heroism takes us through nearly a century of Irish history. The bad days of the Famine are succeeded by the Young Ireland Rebellion. The scene moves to America, to New York and the foothills of Nevada. Then come Fenian times, and at the age of thirty-eight Conal is found guilty of treason by a packed jury at Cork Assizes, and sentenced for life by "So-help-me-God" Keogh. He endures penal servitude for fourteen years at Millbank, Portland, and Dartmoor, and on his release he goes back to his hillside to compose "little poems of the country-side to sing to his own heart." The story, full of tragedy and pathos, is simply and touchingly told; and if it is, perhaps, a little formless in its general composition, it gives us an admirable guide to Ireland's spiritual history in a period now too easily forgotten.

Green Corn, by Betty Askwith. (Gollancz, 7s. 6d.)

THIS is the story of a young girl from her schooldays onwards, very delicately and delightfully told, but almost too slight in its emotional content to be worth telling until, in the last few pages, Miranda learns by accident that the apparently slight illness from which she thinks herself recovering must inevitably prove fatal. The last part of the book, as delicate as essentially young, as the earlier part, yet full of significance, is very well worth reading, and the end has an exquisite freshness, and a pathos without sentimentality, which make it memorable.

The English Family Robinson, by D. L. Murray. (Constable, 7s. 6d.)

HERE is a jolly and amusing tale which is also a tract for the times. It was the slump which made Sir Valentine and Lady Robinson and their son and daughters into the English Family Robinson: obliged to live on their own estate and their own resources. And the children certainly proved resourceful enough in rescuing themselves, and in their methods of putting a little money into the empty family coffers. They did not wait as did the original family, for instruction or advice from Papa. This is a modern story. And Papa, in this family, was not a man of great resource. Nor was Mamma much help to her children in their schemes. It was Virginia, the elder daughter, who got the family out of most of its quandaries—such as the writ from the butcher—with her adventures in horse dealing, though Rosalind helped, too, with her chicken farming. And the original Family had no such enemies to cope with as the malicious Mr. Mayhew, with his complex of class hatred, or the waster who poisoned the chickens, or the girl who played tricks with the eggs. But they are all worsted in the end, and the family saved from disaster. With all the fun there is a lot of sound sense in this story, and sometimes a note almost of bitterness—a justified bitterness—which will be echoed, perhaps, by some other

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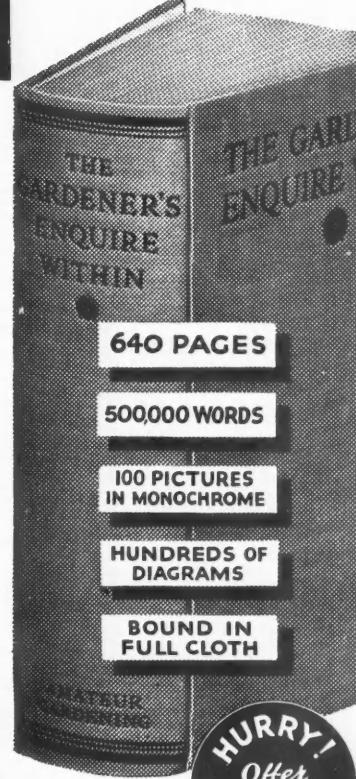
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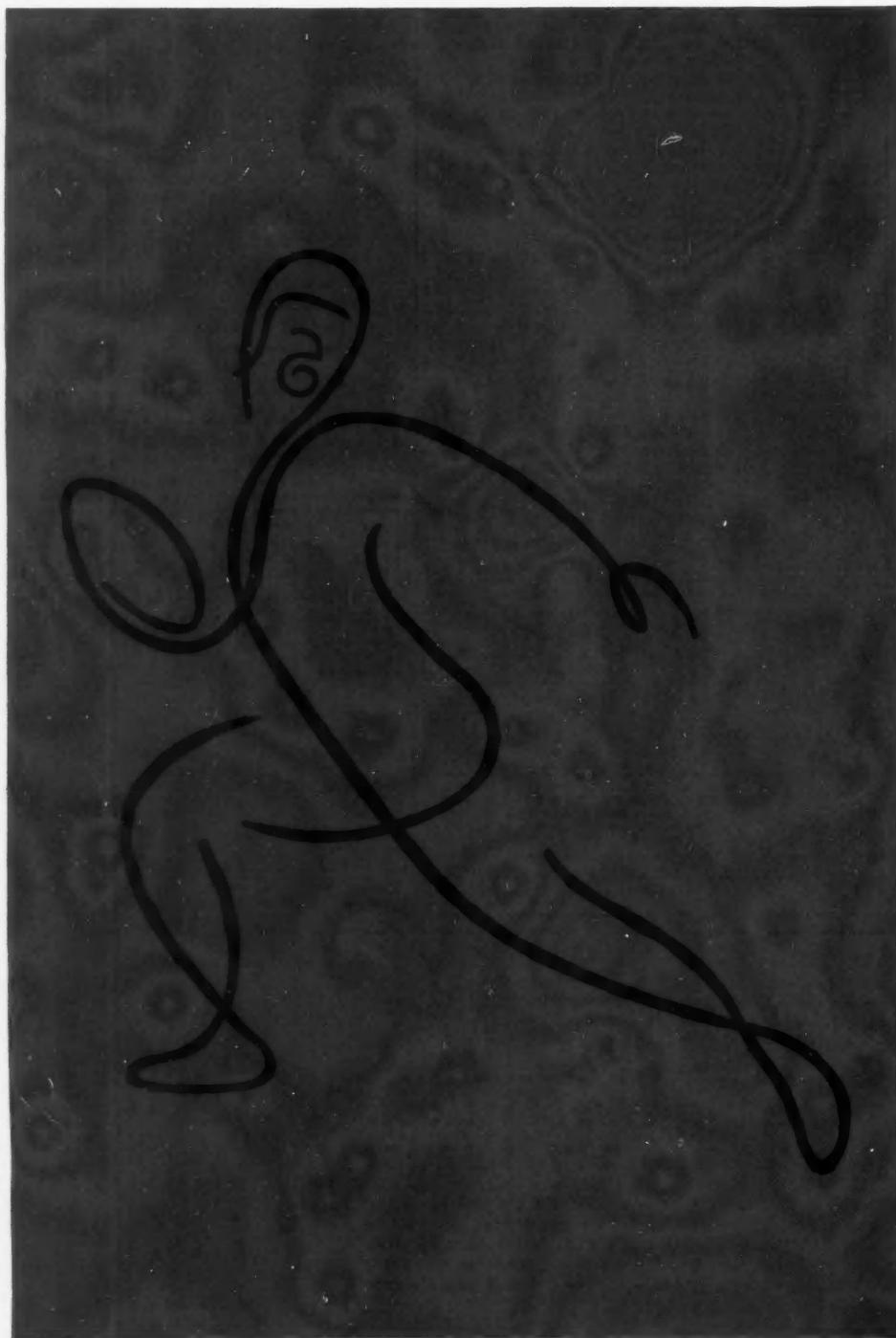
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